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CALENDAR

OF

LETTER-BOOKS

PRESERVED AMONG THE ARCHIVES OF THE CORPORATION

OF THE

CITY OF LONDON.

London City

CALENDAR

OF

LETTER-BOOKS

PRESERVED AMONG THE ARCHIVES OF THE CORPORATION

OF THE

CITY OF LONDON

AT THE GUILDHALL.

Lb. K

LETTER-BOOK K.

Temp. HENRY VI.

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EDITED BY

REGINALD R. SHARPE, D.C.L.,

LATE OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD,

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ERRATA.

Page 5, note 3, for Pope "Nicolas" read *Nicholas.*

Page 7, last line of text, for "Robert" Merlawe read *Richard.*

Page 34, line 11 from top, omit "the said."

Page 34, note 3, for "1409" read *1408*, and omit "yearly."

Page 77, line 8 from bottom, for "Sandoll" read *Sandon.*

Page 80, line 15 from top, and page 90, line 4 from top, for "niefs" read *villeins.*

Page 104, line 8 from top, for "for a reward of" read *with.*

Page 155, line 12 from top, for "Richard Ellefeld" read *Richard de Ellefeld.*

Page 273, note 1, omit "either" and "or Baronet."

Page 294, note 1, for "seventy" years read *eighty.*

INTRODUCTION.

Letter-Book K practically covers the reign of King Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-61], rough records embracing the same period being also entered in the City's Journals (Vols. 2-6).[1] One of the earliest entries in the Letter-Book is the election of William Walderne to the Mayoralty chair, and the steps taken by him, in conjunction with the Aldermen, for giving a worthy reception to the remains of the late King as they passed through the City to Westminster for interment.[2]

Directions were given for the streets of the City to be cleansed, and the corpse was to be met at St. George's Bar in Southwark by the Mayor, Sheriffs, Recorder, Aldermen, and leading citizens clothed in black, and accompanied by 300 torchbearers in white gowns and hoods. More than 200 torches were provided by 31 Livery Companies or Misteries, the rest being (presumably) found by the Corporation, as were also the white gowns and hoods for the torchbearers. Due reverence having been paid to the royal remains, they were to be escorted on the first day as far as St. Paul's, where the funeral obsequies were to take place, and on the second day to Westminster, where they found their last resting-place.

The various Wards of the City were called upon to supply men with torches to line particular streets along the route from London Bridge to St. Paul's, whilst the City clergy were to stand at the doors of their churches habited in their richest vestments, with censers in their hands, and to chant the *Venite*

[1] The series of volumes known as "Journals" commences in 1416, and records, more or less roughly, the proceedings both of the Common Council and the Court of Aldermen down to 1495, when the proceedings of the latter Court began to be entered in a separate series of volumes known as "Repertories." See 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' Introd., p. i.

[2] *Infra*, pp. 2-3.

and incense the corpse as it passed. A contemporary French chronicler,[1] to whom reference is frequently made in this Calendar, gives a graphic description of the whole journey from Vincennes to Westminster, remarking that on this occasion "greater pomp and expense were made than had been done for two hundred years at the interment of any King of England."[2] His interment took place at Westminster on the 7th November.[3]

In the meantime the Duke of Bedford, who had accompanied the King's remains as far as Rouen, had sent a letter dated the 26th October from that place to the Mayor and citizens of London to the effect that in consequence of the King's death the government of the realm had devolved upon him as next to the crown after the reigning sovereign,[4] a child not yet a year old.

It is significant of the high position and influence of the City of London at this time, that the merchants and burgesses of Paris should have addressed a letter to the Mayor and citizens of London begging them to assist in obtaining from the English Government some protection for France against her enemies, whilst assuring them of the allegiance of Paris to Henry VI., whom they acknowledged as King both of France and England.[5] The letter bears no date, but was probably written in October or November, 1422.

Parliament met on the 9th November,[6] a special commission being issued authorizing the Duke of Gloucester (in the absence

[1] Enguerrand de Monstrelet, whose Chronicles have been translated by Thomas Johnes.

[2] Monstrelet (trans.), i. 484.

[3] Fabyan, p. 592.

[4] *Infra*, p. 4.

[5] *Ibid.* It was about this time that the Parisians sent an embassy to England asking for assistance to oppose the party of Charles VII., the new King of France, the late Dauphin of Vienne, and the Queen and Council promised to aid them. Monstrelet (trans.), i. 492; Waurin, 'Recueil des Croniques.....de la Grant Bretaigne.....' (Rolls Series, No. 39), iii. 6-7.

[6] The writ was issued on the 29th Sept. in the name of the baby King, therein described as "heir to the realm of France." See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 270, where the date of the opening of the Parliament by the King's uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, has been inadvertently given in a note as the 6th Nov.

of Bedford on the Continent) to do what was necessary in connexion with the Session, subject to the authority of the King's Council.[1] By this Parliament the Duke of Bedford was constituted Protector of the realm as soon as he should return to England, whilst Gloucester was to occupy the same position during his elder brother's absence. Bedford was well aware of his brother's ambition to get the reins of government into his own hands, and in his letter to the citizens of London just referred to had adjured them not to favour anything that might be attempted in derogation of the law, ancient usage, and custom whereby he claimed the right of government, or that might be to his prejudice. At the same time he assured them that his request proceeded not from ambition nor desire of "worldly worship," but from a desire that the ancient laws and customs should be maintained.[2]

The policy of the two brothers was thenceforth to become divergent. Whilst Bedford strove to consolidate alliances abroad, his efforts were frustrated by his brother's unhappy marriage with Jacqueline of Hainault, and consequent alienation of Philip, Duke of Burgundy. This unfortunate lady was daughter and heiress of the Duke William of Holland, who had accompanied the Emperor to England in 1416,[3] and had been forced to take as her second husband John, Duke of Brabant, a man much older than herself. Not content with neglecting his wife, the husband was eager to dispose of her extensive territorial possessions, upon which the Duke of Burgundy cast a covetous eye. At length matters came to such a pass that in 1421 Jacqueline was glad to accept an asylum in England, offered to her by Henry V., and there she met, and eventually married, the Duke of Gloucester.

[1] "Ad parliamentum illud finiendum et dissolvendum de assensu consilii nostri plenam commisimus potestatem." 'Ordinances of the Privy Council,' iii. 6–7.

[2] See 'London and the Kingdom,' iii. 367. It has been suggested that this letter was aimed rather at the pretensions of Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester and Chancellor, than at Gloucester. See 'Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester,' by Kenneth H. Vickers, M.A., pp. 112–13.

[3] 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 152.

The union proved to be an unhappy one. In 1424 Gloucester and his wife crossed over to France for the purpose of taking possession of the latter's estates, which Burgundy refused to surrender. The expedition had no other effect than to alienate the sympathy of Bedford, and prolong the war. In the spring of the following year he returned to England, leaving his wife behind. Jacqueline had shown herself ready to accompany her husband, but was persuaded by her own people to remain behind, a course to which Gloucester readily gave his consent.

Bedford, in the meantime, was keeping in close touch with the citizens of London, informing them by letter, from time to time, of his doings on the Continent, and receiving in reply their congratulations on his success and assurances of the City's allegiance.[1] In February, 1424, two writs were issued in quick succession to the Sheriffs of London to make proclamation for all persons who were bound in the King's service, for securing the town of Crotoy in Picardy, to proceed without delay to the port of Winchelsea.[2] Early in March, after prolonged negotiations, the town surrendered to Bedford.

On the 23rd February, 1424, we have letters patent recorded in the Letter-Book appointing William Crowmere, the Mayor, William Sevenoke and William Walderne, two Aldermen who had passed the chair, and John Fray, the City's Recorder, to be Commissioners to investigate all cases of treason and felony occurring in the City and suburbs.[3] Although the commission was in general terms, its real object was to bring to trial a certain John Mortymer, described as a Knight of Bishops Hatfield, co. Herts. Little is known of this man except that he claimed relationship with the Earl of March, and, on that account was, not improbably, regarded with suspicion by the House of Lancaster. He had recently been arrested on suspicion of treason, and committed to the custody of the Earl of Huntingdon, Constable of the Tower, whence he had made his escape, with the help of William Thyng, a servant of the

[1] See the City's reply to a letter from the Duke written at Creil early in the year 1424. *Infra*, p. 27.

[2] *Infra*, pp. 15, 16.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 24-5.

Lieutenant of the Tower, on the very day that the commission issued. This much was found by a jury impanelled by the Commissioners, and duly reported to Parliament;[1] but this is not the whole story. Mortimer had already been committed to the Tower on suspicion of treason against the late King, and had made good his escape in April, 1422, accompanied by Thomas Payne, a clerk to Sir John Oldcastle.[2] He was, however, soon recaptured.

During his second imprisonment a special ordinance was passed by the Parliament which commenced to sit on the 20th October, 1423, constituting escape from prison a treasonable act like other treasonable acts formulated by statute (25 Edw. III., st. 5, cap. ii.). This ordinance was deliberately aimed at Mortimer, and was made to take effect retrospectively from the first day of the session, and to end on the day of the meeting of the next Parliament.[3] No sooner was the ordinance passed than William Kyng of Wymelton in Rydale, co. York, was induced by bribery to aid Mortimer in another dash for life,[4] or, as some say, was instructed by his superiors to incite him to make the attempt.[5] However this may be, the fact remains that a fresh attempt was made by Mortimer, who was immediately recaptured, and, on the same day (26 Feb.) that the Commissioners made their report to Parliament, was executed at Tyburn.[6]

In the following August (1424) the citizens had occasion to dispatch a letter to the Duke of Bedford congratulating him upon his "cronicable and victoriouse esploit" at Verneuil over a mixed force of French and Scots. There was severe loss on both sides, but the greatest loss fell to the Scots, of whom more than 1,700, in the quaint language of the chronicler, went that day to "schippe wessh" (sheep-wash), so that they were sorry they ever came there.[7]

[1] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 202.
[2] *Vide infra*, p. 16.
[3] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 260.
[4] *Infra*, p. 25.
[5] See Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London,' pp. 282-3; 341-2.
[6] Amundesham (Rolls Series, No. 28), i. 6. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 202.
[7] MS. Cotton, Cleopatra C. iv. fo. 33. This MS. is one of a series of Chronicles of London preserved among the Cottonian Collection in

No sooner had Gloucester returned home from his luckless expedition to Hainault than he fell out with his uncle, Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, who had been made Chancellor during his absence abroad, and who had taken upon himself to garrison the Tower of London. Thereupon Gloucester sent for John Coventre, the newly elected Mayor, on Oct. 29, and charged him to keep a careful watch in the City that night. No mention is made in the Letter-Book of this injunction, but it is recorded, together with subsequent proceedings, by William Gregory, sometime a City Alderman, and reputed writer of the Chronicle which bears his name.[1] The next day matters rose to such a pitch that eventually Bedford had to be summoned home to conciliate the nephew and uncle.

Peace being at length restored between the rival factions, Bedford again set out for France in March, 1427, accompanied by Beaufort, who had resigned the Great Seal. In the following July a writ was issued for a Parliament to meet on Oct. 13.[2] Liberal grants of money were made, among them being a new and complicated form of subsidy, which necessitated the assessment of every parish in the City of London that had at least ten inhabitant householders. The Letter-Book gives us particulars of this valuation which are of considerable interest.[3] In every parish where the church was assessed at the annual value of 20*s.* the parishioners were called upon to pay 2*s.*, and so *pro rata* on an ascending scale. The most valuable "living" in the City at that time appears to have been that of St. Sepulchre, Newgate, the church being assessed at £65; the next being that of St. Bride, whose church was valued at £47 13*s.* 4*d.* Four churches were assessed at £40, whilst the

the British Museum and recently edited by Charles Lethbridge Kingsford, M.A., of St. John's College, Oxford—a work frequently referred to in the present Calendar. The chronicler's phrase of "went to schippe wessh" probably refers to the fact that the chief slaughter took place in the moat, the garrison of the town fearing to open the gates to receive their fugitive countrymen. (See Sir James Ramsay's 'Lancaster and York,' i. 350.)

[1] 'Gregory's Chron.' (Camd. Soc.), p. 159.

[2] *Infra*, p. 61.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 71–5.

others had valuations varying from 55 marks down to 5 marks. The Church of St. Augustine Papey, soon to be united to that of All Hallows on the Wall,[1] is not included in the list, as there were not ten inhabitants in the parish who were householders.[2]

For three years the condition of Jacqueline in her unequal contest with the Duke of Burgundy had been going from bad to worse, and much sympathy was felt for her in England. In 1427 her husband raised a sum of money for the purpose of rescuing her, but he could have had no real wish for her return, as he was openly living with Eleanor Cobham, one of Jacqueline's ladies-in-waiting. It was no great disappointment to him, therefore, when an energetic protest from Bedford put a stop to his proposed expedition.

Early in the following year (1428), his marriage with Jacqueline having been declared by Papal decree to have been invalid owing to her previous marriage,[3] Gloucester took steps to legalize his relation with his mistress. This so roused the indignation of the citizens that on the 8th March they in formal manner drew the attention of Parliament to the lamentable state to which the "lady Duchess of Gloucester" (as they called her in spite of the recent Papal Bull) had been brought by some of her enemies (*per nonnullos inimicos suos*). Moreover, with their naturally commercial proclivities, they prayed Parliament to take into consideration the favour that had always been shown to English merchants in the countries of Hainault, Holland, and Zealand, and to grant the lady some assistance, adding that they themselves were prepared to take their share in such a way as the Lords and Commons might direct.[4] A few months after the presentation of this petition—and possibly in consequence of it—letters patent were issued (1 July, 1428) confirming to merchants of Flanders, Holland, and Zealand the right of free commercial intercourse with England.[5]

[1] United *circ.* 1430 (Stow's 'Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 161).

[2] *Infra*, p. 75.

[3] Waurin, *op. cit.* iii. 213.

[4] *Infra*, p. 68. This petition does not appear on the Rolls of Parliament.

[5] *Infra*, p. 92. Delpit (whose work, embracing transcripts from the Letter-Books, has been frequently

Another, and less formal, petition was presented to the same Parliament by a number of London women, headed by a fish-wife of the Stocks Market, in which Gloucester's personal character was vituperated for his heartless conduct and flagrant immorality. Like the former petition, it is not recorded in the Rolls of Parliament, nor, indeed, is it mentioned in the Letter-Book, but it is to be found in a chronicle compiled by a monk of St. Albans,[1] into which Fraternity both the Duke and Jacqueline had been admitted as members in January, 1424.

On his return to France, Bedford pressed forward the war with some success, but was eventually compelled to seek reinforcements from home. In the summer of 1428 the Earl of Salisbury took out a small force, and on the 5th September wrote to the Mayor and Aldermen from "Yenville" (Janville),[2] informing them of the success that had attended his arms. Over forty towns and fortresses,[3] he writes, had been captured, "somme wonne be assault and somme other wyse," among them being the town from which he dates his letter, and which he declares to have been captured on the 19th August by "the most notable assault that ever we sawe."

By a postscript he also informs them that the town and castle of "Meun" on the "Eure" had been captured by Sir Richard Hankeford, and that that town was but five leagues from

referred to in these Calendars) cites this petition as again illustrating the great influence exercised at this period by the City of London over public affairs ('Documents Français,' &c., Introd., p. lxxv). Similar favour had been shown in 1426 by Henry to those whom he styled his Flemish subjects in France. *Infra*, p. 128.

[1] Amundesham, i. 20. With respect to this entry, however, the editor of the Chronicle remarks that, "considering the high popularity enjoyed by the Duke of Gloucester with the people of the Abbey.....we are not surprised to find the word *vacat* occurring towards the commencement of this passage, implying, to all appearance, that it should be looked upon as cancelled" (Introd., i. xxxiii-xxxiv). On the Duke's death, which took place in February, 1447, his remains were solemnly received by the Abbot of St. Albans, and there buried.

[2] *Infra*, p. 79.

[3] He encloses a list of places captured. These places have been identified in Longnon's 'Limites de la France,' &c. See *Revue des Questions Historiques* (1875), xviii. 487. Delpit, who prints the list from the Letter-Book, makes no attempt to identify them.

Orleans, which had been his objective since his return to France,[1] and before which he was destined shortly to meet his death. To this letter a suitable reply was sent on the 12th October.

The following year (1429) was one of extreme scarcity, and by order of the Common Council, William Rider, a fishmonger, was dispatched (among others) to France to purchase corn. He was the bearer of a letter from the Mayor and Aldermen to the Duke of Bedford, praying for his favour and assistance in the City's "grete necessite."[2] Rider executed his mission with so much success that on his return he was granted a discharge from serving on juries and other duties appertaining to citizenship.[3]

Beaufort, who had received in 1427 the long desired Cardinal's hat,[4] had, in the meantime, returned to England (1 Sept., 1428) with a Papal commission to raise men and money for a crusade against the Hussites. It was for this purpose that the Mayor of the City (Henry Bartone) caused proclamation to be made, on the King's behalf, for every one who was bound for the service of the Worshipful Father in God

[1] "And that same day [2 June, 1428] the Erle of Saulysbury toke hys jornaye toward Fraunce the secunde tyme; and he schyppyd at Sondewyche and he londed in Normandy and wente forthe unto Orlyaunce." Gregory, p. 162.

[2] *Infra*, pp. 92-4. In 1432, when famine was again threatening, the exportation of corn was restricted (*infra*, p. 146); whilst Stow tells us that in 1439 Stephen Browne, the Mayor, "sent into Prussia, causing corne to be brought from thence, whereby hee brought downe the price of wheate from three shillings the bushell to less than halfe that money" ('Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 109-110). The repeated fears of scarcity during this reign eventually led Symon Eyre (Mayor in 1445-6) to erect a public granary at Leadenhall (*infra*, p. 294).

[3] *Infra*, p. 100.

[4] The honour had originally been offered to him by Pope Martin V. at Constance, in December, 1417, but Henry V. forbade him to accept it. A second nomination to the cardinalate had been made in May, 1426, but it was not until the 25th March of the following year that he received the hat at the hands of his nephew, Bedford, soon after their landing at Calais. Gregory, p. 161; Nicolas, p. 115. Cf. Stubbs, 'Const. Hist.,' iii. 108 n., where the learned historian (inadvertently, no doubt) states that Beaufort received the Cardinal's hat at Rouen.

the Cardinal of England to betake himself to Barham Down, near Canterbury, where a force was mustering.[1] The defeat of the English at Patay, on the 18th June, 1429, however, necessitated sending reinforcements to Bedford without delay, so the Cardinal's forces were used for this purpose, and the crusade was postponed.[2]

In August of this year (1429) Bedford, as Regent of France, wrote a strong letter to "Charles de Valois," who claimed the crown of France as successor to his father Charles VI. (who had died within two months of the death of the English king Henry V.), remonstrating with him for having seized various towns in France which rightly belonged to his own sovereign King Henry VI.; and further, for deceiving superstitious people by availing himself of the services of a woman of bad character, in the guise of a man—meaning the Maid of Orleans—and of an apostate Friar of the Augustinian Order known as Friar Richard. He concludes his letter by solemnly calling upon Charles to put an end to bloodshed by a solid and reasonable peace or else to join him in open combat (*par journees de bataille*) as became a prince.[3]

The letter was dated from Montereau-faut-Yonne, the scene of the treacherous murder of John, Duke of Burgundy (father of Philip who was giving Bedford so much trouble), in 1419, when about to enter into personal negotiations with this same Charles de Valois, at that time known as the Dauphin of Vienne. Of this act of treachery and unchivalrous conduct the Duke unsparingly reminds the Prince.

Before another Parliament met[4] the Mayor and Aldermen took steps to remedy an abuse that had arisen in the City by its representatives in Parliament claiming a greater amount of cloth and fur trimming than they were entitled to by custom. On the 12th August, 1429, it was decreed by that body that in

[1] *Infra*, p. 99.

[2] 'Ordinances of the Privy Council' (ed. Sir H. Nicolas), iii. 340.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 100-1. The letter is printed by Waurin, *op. cit.* iii. 320-4, as well as by Monstrelet (trans.), i. 558-9.

[4] A writ was issued in July, 1429, for a Parliament to meet on the 13th October, but the day was afterwards changed to the 22nd September. *Infra*, pp. 92, 100.

future no Alderman elected to Parliament should receive from the Chamber more than ten yards of cloth for his gown and cloak (*armilausa*) at 15*s.* a yard, nor more than 100*s.* for his fur if he had already served as Mayor; otherwise he was to receive no more than 5 marks for his fur. Commoners elected to represent the City in Parliament had to be content with five yards of cloth for their clothing and 33*s.* 4*d.* for fur. An Alderman, moreover, was to be allowed eight yards of cloth at 28 pence a yard for two attendants, and a Commoner four yards at the same price for one attendant if the Parliament was being held in or near London, and eight yards for two attendants if it was sitting in some more remote place.[1]

It was daily becoming more imperative that the young King should go to Paris to be crowned King of France, and to this end preparations were hurried forward for his coronation as King of England to take place first. Pursuant to a royal proclamation (bearing no date) calling upon all those who ought to do service at the coronation to repair to the Duke of Gloucester (who had been appointed Steward of England for the occasion) to make their claim,[2] the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and other citizens appeared in the Painted Chamber at Westminster on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], the day that the new Mayor, William Estfeld, was sworn into office.

The claim is recorded in the Letter-Book as having been made (according to custom) by the mouth of the Recorder, and is of considerable interest as being one of the earliest set out in the City's own records.[3] The Mayor, by virtue of his office and the liberties and customs of the City, claimed to serve the King in person, both at the coronation banquet in the Hall and

[1] *Infra*, p. 101. In April, 1450, an ordinance was passed to the effect that City Members should receive from the Chamberlain for their expenses the sum of 40*s.* a day so long as Parliament was sitting in some distant town. *Infra*, pp. 330-1.

[2] *Infra*, p. 102.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 103-4. The only previous claims similarly set out are those made at the coronation of Eleanor, Queen of Henry III., in 1236 ('Liber Ordinationum,' fos. 193 b-5), and the coronation of Richard II. in 1377 ('Liber Custumarum,' fo. 278).

after the banquet in the chamber for spices (*camera ad species*),[1] with wine in a cup of gold belonging to the King, which cup, together with an ewer, he claimed to be allowed to take away as his fee. There was a further claim for certain citizens, elected for the purpose, to be allowed to assist the Chief Butler,[2] and for the Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Recorder to sit during the banquet at the principal table on the left side of the Hall. The claims appear to have been allowed, for the cup which Estfeld received on this occasion (of which a pen-and-ink sketch is given in the margin of the Letter-Book) was bequeathed by him to his grandson in 1445.[3] The coronation took place on Sunday the Feast of St. Leonard (6 Nov.), 1429.

On the 12th December the Commons voted the King a fifteenth and a tenth, and on the 20th of the same month a like sum. Commissioners were appointed to levy the money in the City, and precepts issued to make the necessary assessments in the several Wards.[4] The King's Council, moreover, was authorized by Parliament to give security for loans to the extent of £50,000, and on this security the City advanced more than £6,000.[5]

In the spring of the following year the City was again laid under contribution, to the extent of 5,000 marks, towards defraying the expenses of the King's journey to Paris. The money was to be repaid out of the next fifteenth.[6] Henry set sail on the 23rd April, leaving his uncle the Duke of Gloucester as Warden

[1] Or, as runs the record of a similar claim put forward at the coronation of Edward IV.,—"after mete in such place as it shal please his highnesse to take his spices" (Letter-Book L, fo. 4).

[2] *Nota bene*, not "the Lord Mayor as Chief Butler," as stated in the Report to Common Council, 18 Aug., 1831, referred to *infra*, p. 104 n. The Lord Mayor never acted *ex officio* as Chief Butler; he only *assisted* the Chief Butler, in conjunction with twelve other citizens. The Chief Butler was the *King's* Chamberlain in the City (as distinct from the *City's* Chamberlain), and *ex officio* City Coroner. 'Liber Cust.,' i. 296. *Et nota quod Botellarius domini Regis et Camerarius domini Regis et Coronator idem sunt.* Cf. Madox, 'History of the Exchequer' (ed. 1711), p. 526.

[3] 'Cal. of Wills, Court of Husting,' ii. 509.

[4] *Infra*, pp. 106, 111, 122.

[5] *Infra*, p. 110.

[6] *Infra*, p. 107.

at home, but it was not until December,[1] 1431, that he received the crown of France at the hands of Cardinal Beaufort.

The journey to Paris was difficult and tedious, the way having first to be cleared by Bedford's army. Within a few weeks of his landing in France he received news of the capture of Joan of Arc. In November he wrote from Rouen to his "trusty and well beloved the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commune" of the City of London, urging them to advance him 10,000 marks, a sum, they were told, which would be of greater service to him in his present necessity than perhaps double the amount at a less necessitous time.[2] The Letter-Book does not inform us whether the money was forthcoming or not.

Henry remained at Rouen, whither the Maid had been conveyed, in order to superintend her trial, which commenced in February, 1431. She was burnt in the public market-place of that city in May, and the King at length entered Paris on Sunday, the 2nd December. The Letter-Book gives us a graphic account of his reception in the French capital,[3] in greater detail than is to be found elsewhere.[4]

The Letter-Book gives us an equally interesting account of the young King's reception by the citizens of London on his return home in February, 1432. It is written in the form of a letter to a friend (not named) by John Carpenter, who facetiously latinizes his name as *Johannes Faber sive Domifex*, the City's Secretary or Town Clerk.[5] It is a fuller account than those given us by the compiler of Gregory's Chronicle,[6] and by Fabyan.[7] Carpenter, however, is guilty of a strange chronological error when he states that the King entered the City

[1] The precise day of the month has been variously given as the 7th, the 9th, the 11th, the 13th, the 16th, and the 17th Dec.

[2] *Infra*, p. 116.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 135-7.

[4] Monstrelet, for instance, omits to mention that nine female worthies accompanied the nine male worthies who saluted the English King, whereas the names of both the nine *preux* and the nine *preuses* are recorded in the Letter-Book. Cf. the French 'Encyclopédie,' Supplement, vol. iv. p. 532; Waurin, *op. cit.* iv. 5.

[5] *Infra*, pp. 137-9.

[6] Gregory, pp. 173-5.

[7] Fabyan, pp. 603-7. Fabyan's account comprises verses composed by John Lydgate for the occasion,

on Thursday, the 20th February, and that a deputation presented him with £1,000 on Saturday, the 22nd. The former date should have been given as Thursday, the 21st February (as recorded by Fabyan), and the latter as the 23rd. It was doubtless due to Carpenter's official position in the City that what purports to be a private communication between friends has here been placed on record. The French antiquary Jules Delpit, who transcribes this account of Henry's return as well as that of his reception in Paris from the Letter-Book, can only explain their existence in the Letter-Book by a desire on the part of John Carpenter to show how superior his own account of the King's return was to the French account of his reception in Paris![1]

After raising the sum of £1,000 as a free gift to Henry on his return home as mentioned, the citizens found themselves in sore straits to raise a further sum in order to give him a befitting welcome. The difficulty of raising money in the City at this period was increased by the number of citizens who took up their abode outside the City, and thereby avoided paying scot and bearing lot with their fellow-citizens.[2] The difficulty was overcome by John Bederenden, the City Chamberlain, offering to advance out of his own purse the money required. It need scarcely be said that he received ample security for reimbursement.[3]

Between the two narratives of the King's travels to and from France there is recorded (by a different hand from that which precedes and follows it) a French poem of forty-three lines entitled 'Complainte de Paris,'[4] in which that city is depicted as bemoaning its sad lot ever since Bedford had left it to go to England for the purpose of seeking aid to rescue it. The poem is set out from the Letter-Book by Delpit, who, with some hesitation, dates it March, 1431. It is probably of later date

the poet being in frequent request as a writer on ceremonial occasions, both national and civic. Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London,' pp. 97-116, 301-2.

[1] 'Documents Français,' &c., pp. clx, clxi.

[2] *Vide infra*, pp. 131-2.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 129-30.

[4] *Infra*, p. 137.

than this, for Bedford does not appear to have quitted France between 1427 and 1432—unless, indeed, the French chronicler Monstrelet be right in describing the Duke as being among those who accompanied Henry from England in April, 1430.[1] This, however, requires corroboration. The refrain of each stanza of the poem is to the effect that unless aid were sent[2] Henry would lose both Paris and the whole of France:—

Ou vous perdrez Paris et toute France.

This warning is re-echoed in letters from the Provost and Commune to Henry soon after he had left Paris to return home. They warn him that the neighbourhood was being threatened, and that unless he took steps to dismantle some of the nearest fortresses he ran the risk of losing France entirely. A copy of these letters was forwarded to the civic authorities, with an earnest prayer that they would again intercede with the King for the speedy dispatch of a force for the restoration of peace in his realm of France.[3]

The absence of Beaufort on the Continent had been seized by Gloucester as an opportunity for enhancing his own position at home at the expense of his uncle. This having come to the Cardinal's ears, he postponed the visit he was about to pay to the Pope, and hastened home in time for the Parliament which was to meet on the 12th May, 1432. He informed the civic authorities—his "entierly beloved frendis," as he frequently called them—of his intention, writing to them from Ghent on the 13th April, and telling them that he desired to know why he had been thus "strangely demeened" contrary to his deserts.[4] Accordingly, when Parliament met, Beaufort was in his place, and expressed surprise at a charge of disloyalty that, as he understood, had been levelled against him. He demanded that he should be confronted with his accuser. This demand having been duly considered in the presence of the King and Gloucester, the Cardinal was formally assured

[1] Monstrelet (trans.), i. 596.

[2] A force appears to have been dispatched to France in or about April, 1431, under Sir William de Clynton and Sir Thomas Tunstall. *Infra*, p. 128.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 132-3, 135.

[4] *Infra*, p. 139.

that no such charge had ever been made, and that the King accounted him a loyal and faithful subject. Peace was thereupon restored—at least for awhile.

The year 1433 found the Government in great straits for money. Parliament met on the 8th July, and in the following October a statement of the national finances was laid before it by the Treasurer. Opportunity was taken by the Commons of Bedford's presence in England (whither he had come to answer for his conduct of the war in France) to get him to give, and his brother the Duke of Gloucester to renew, their acceptance of an article that had been drawn up with a view to the preservation of peace and the good government of the realm. Both Dukes appended their signatures to the article,[1] and others followed their example. In April of the next year (1434) the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen of the City were bound by oath to observe the same.[2]

In the meanwhile Parliament had voted a subsidy of a fifteenth and a tenth, but the sum of £4,000 was to be set aside out of the proceeds for the relief of poor towns, cities, &c. The amount of relief which fell to the City of London was £76 15*s.* 6¼*d.*, and this was apportioned, at the discretion of the Bishop of London and the City's representatives in Parliament, among eighteen of the poorer Wards. The largest sum allotted to any Ward was £20, and this went to Cordwainer Street Ward, whilst Lime Street Ward had to content itself with an allotment of the odd farthing.[3]

It is difficult to understand the principle on which the allotment was made, for, according to a schedule of the sums contributed to subsidies, &c., by the various Wards in 1369 and 1375,[4] Cordwainer Street and Cheap Wards were called upon to contribute the largest sums, as being the wealthiest Wards at that time, whilst Lime Street Ward paid the smallest sum, being then, as in 1434, the poorest. Again, Aldgate, Aldersgate, and Bassishaw Wards, which appear in the earlier

[1] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 421-2.
[2] *Infra*, fo. 138.
[3] *Infra*, p. 177.
[4] See 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' Introd., p. xxi; also 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 2-3.

schedules as the next poorest Wards after Lime Street, are now allowed no relief; whilst Farringdon Ward Within, which appeared formerly as the next richest Ward after Cheap and Cordwainer Street, is now allowed a rebate of £4.[1]

Bedford had not been long in England before differences again arose between him and Gloucester. As soon as these were adjusted by the personal intervention of the King he again took leave of the Council, and on the 24th June (1434) set sail for France. There he found that matters had been going from bad to worse. He knew full well that Burgundy was about to desert the English cause, and the knowledge of this, and of his own failing strength, induced him to agree to a congress being held at Arras on the 13th July, 1435, for the purpose, if possible, of effecting a permanent peace. The commonalty of Paris had been informed by Burgundy himself of the proposed Congress, and of an invitation to be sent to King Henry for his agreement, and on the 14th May (1435) he again wrote to them to the effect that Henry had consented to send delegates.[2] English ambassadors were accordingly sent, but negotiations proved abortive, Henry refusing to surrender an inch of French territory. A few days later (14 Sept.) Bedford died at Rouen. His death left Burgundy free to make terms with Charles VII., and shortly afterwards he formally renounced the English alliance.

Meanwhile hostilities had been continued in France pending the negotiations. In June the Mayor and Aldermen of Calais had addressed a letter to their *confrères* of the City of London — as their predecessors had done before — praying them to use their services with the King and his Council to induce them to send relief to their town, which was being threatened by an Armagnac force. That party was already in possession of Rue, a small town on the banks of the Somme. They had

[1] Six years later, viz., in 1440, when a similar sum was allotted for the relief of the poorer Wards, the apportionment was made among 14 out of the 18 Wards now relieved, the Wards of Bread Street, Billingsgate, Broad Street, and Langborn being allowed nothing. *Infra*, pp. 240-1.

[2] *Infra*, p. 189. How this letter came to be recorded in the Letter-Book it is difficult to understand.

raided the neighbourhood of Samer au Bois, had burnt Etaples, and were threatening to overrun Guisnes. The writers beg the City of London as "the principalle of all the citees of the roiaulme of England" to render them assistance such as it had done on former occasions.[1] The appeal was in vain, and Calais had to get out of her difficulties as best she could, without any immediate relief from England.

A year later (June, 1436) the town was again hard pressed, being closely besieged by a joint Flemish and Burgundian force under the leadership of the Duke himself. Great indignation had been shown in London against this "fals forsworn" Duke, and the houses of Flemish merchants had been attacked and pillaged. Henry, on his part, pursued a policy of conciliation towards the Flemings, and had issued injunctions against the molestation of any natives of Flanders residing in England who remained loyal to him, and had not been led astray "by the wiles of the so-called Duke of Burgundy and Count of Flanders."[2] The breach was now complete, and England was at war not only with France, but with Burgundy. In December (1435) Parliament had granted a whole subsidy[3] subject to a reduction of £4,000 as before,[4] and this had been supplemented by a graduated income tax (at that time an innovation, but soon to become only too familiar) on freehold lands and offices. In the following January eleven Commissioners were appointed by the King to levy the tax in the City. These comprised the Mayor, the Sheriffs, William Cheyne, John Fray, and Alexander Anne (men who had served high office in the City, either as Recorder or Common Serjeant), and others.[5] Jurors were sworn to make a return of the names of those liable to the tax in each Ward, and had to appear before the Commissioners

[1] *Infra*, p. 190.

[2] *Infra*, p. 204. Delpit (*op. cit.*, p. 265) refers to the King's letter, but unaccountably dates it 1450, although in the Letter-Book it bears date 28th March, 14 Henry VI. Moreover, he indulges in some comments reflecting upon the morality of the King in giving such instructions (*Id.*, Introd., p. cxlviii).

[3] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 487.

[4] Cf. *infra*, p. 177.

[5] *Infra*, pp. 195-6.

to be examined. It was a veritable "inquisition" that the citizens had to submit to.[1]

Preparations were hurried forward to dispatch a force to France under the Duke of York and the Earls of Salisbury and Suffolk. This contingent was to be ready early in May (1436),[2] but many weeks elapsed before it could set sail. The City took its share in the furnishing of soldiers for Calais, as is recorded by William Gregory, recently elected an Alderman of the City, in his Chronicle.[3] Other reinforcements were to be sent out under the Duke of Gloucester and the Earl of Huntingdon for the relief of the town.[4] In order to superintend affairs, the King himself took up his residence at Canterbury. Notwithstanding all efforts, the force under the Earl of Salisbury was not able to set sail before the 27th July; but by that time Calais was out of danger, owing chiefly to the defection of Duke Philip's Flemish allies.

A curious incident is recorded in connexion with this siege. It appears that the Flemings engaged in the siege were in such a hurry to get home that they left behind them a "great quantyte of bere."[5] This love of the Fleming for his beer is illustrated by an entry in the Letter-Book. Being no doubt aware of this proclivity of his Flemish subjects in England, and wishing to keep on good terms with them, Henry issued a writ in June, 1436, for the purpose of protecting them in their brewing industry. A temperance party had sprung up in the country who objected to the brewing of beer as being an unwholesome drink and an intoxicant,[6] and in consequence of their action many brewers in England, including Hollanders and Zealanders, had to cease brewing, and many lost their only means of gaining a livelihood. Fearing that greater mischief might ensue from the misguided zeal of this intemperate party,

[1] *Infra*, pp. 196-7.

[2] *Infra*, p. 204.

[3] Gregory, p. 178. Cf. Kingsford, 'Chronicles,' p. 141.

[4] See writs dated 18 June, 5, 21, and 23 July. *Infra*, pp. 205, 206.

[5] Fabyan, 'Chron.,' p. 611. Cf. Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London,' p. 142.

[6] "Asserentes ipsum potum venenosum et nullo modo potabilem eo quod exinde quamplurimi jam tarde intoxicati fuerunt."

if allowed to go on unchecked, the King ordered the Sheriffs of London publicly to proclaim that all brewers of beer within their bailiwick were to continue to brew in spite of all opposition; for beer, said he, so far from being a poisonous drink, as was alleged by its detractors, was a wholesome one, especially at that season of the year.[1]

Notwithstanding his failure before Calais, Burgundy could well console himself with having succeeded in driving the English out of Paris, which had been subject to English rule for sixteen years. This had taken place on the 13th April (1436), and for the space of nearly four centuries from that day no English force ever set foot in the French capital as conquerors.[2]

The war continued to drag slowly on, whilst at the same time negotiations continued for peace; but the Letter-Book records but little touching the relations existing between England and France in the years that remain of the reign of Henry VI.

In 1444 a truce was agreed upon to last for two years, and a marriage was arranged between Henry and Margaret of Anjou. The Princess came over to England early in the following year, and the marriage took place in April. It was, doubtless, in anticipation of the coronation of his Queen[3] in May, 1445, that Henry had dispatched a letter to the Mayor (Thomas Catworth) on the day of the election of a new Mayor (13 October, 1444), informing him that he had written to William Estfeld to ask him to undertake again the duties of the Mayoralty (although he was in no wise bound to do so, having already twice filled the office), and urging the Mayor to take steps to ensure his election. It will be remembered that Estfeld had been Mayor at the time of the King's own coronation, and he had then

[1] *Infra*, p. 205.

[2] When such a force did at length appear in the streets of Paris, it was at a time when France had long dominated the Continent under the iron rule of the first Napoleon, and when the possibility of restricting her power within reasonable limits appeared to be well-nigh hopeless.

[3] In August, 1446, a gratuity of 40*s.* was granted to Richard Power, the City's Swordbearer, for his services in connexion with the ceremony. *Infra*, fo. 231.

found such favour that Henry desired his assistance in the coming year.

After the celebration of Mass—a service which had always preceded the election of a Mayor since 1406[1]—the King's letter was duly considered by the Mayor and Aldermen in connexion with the City's laws and usage. Ordinances being discovered forbidding any one to be elected Mayor who had twice filled the office, or been Mayor within the last seven years, they made a report to the Common Council to that effect. The result was that the Council decided to uphold the laws which they themselves had enacted rather than curry favour with the King; and although Estfeld was acknowledged to be a most suitable person to be in office at the Queen's arrival in England in the following year, Henry Frowyk was elected Mayor.[2]

In 1447 the King of France addressed a letter to his "dear and great friends" (presumably the citizens of London), notifying them that he was about to send ambassadors to his nephew (Henry VI.), among them being the Count de Dunois, the Sire de Precigny (Bertrand de Beauveau), Jean Havart, his serjeant-carver, and others, for the purpose of negotiating (if possible) a permanent settlement between the two countries, such as the writer himself greatly desired. He prayed his "dear friends" to assist in accomplishing an end so beneficial, not only to the two countries, but to Christianity at large.[3] This was not to be. The most that was accomplished was a further prolongation of the truce.

The year 1453 was an eventful one for England, for in that year Bordeaux and Bayonne—*cette fière et guerrière sœur de Londres*, as Delpit styles the latter city[4]—were recovered by the French, and the English possessions on the Continent reduced to the town of Calais and its vicinity. The "Hundred Years' War" was practically over. In that year, too, Queen Margaret

[1] 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' pp. 52-3.
[2] *Infra*, pp. 301-2.
[3] *Infra*, p. 320.
[4] Delpit (*op. cit.*), Introd., p. ccxxxviii. In 1442 a commercial treaty had been concluded between London and Bayonne. *Infra*, pp. 270-1.

at last bore the King a son ;[1] but Henry by that time had become imbecile, and the birth of Prince Edward served only to hasten the conflict between the houses of Lancaster and York.

In 1457, there being no formal peace concluded between England and France, a French fleet suddenly appeared off the south coast and the town of Sandwich was pillaged. The citizens of London made a handsome offer to fit out and man the ships lying in the Thames and sent a letter to that effect to the King, who was then at Northampton, by the hand of Alderman Cook. The offer was graciously received, the City's letter and the King's reply being recorded in the Letter-Book ;[2] but before the fleet was ready the Frenchmen had drawn off.

Almost the last entry in the Letter-Book is a letter addressed in 1460 to the Mayor, &c., of the City by the King at Northampton, who had recently issued commissions of array (the legality of which was questioned) assuring them that the City's liberties should not be prejudiced.[3] The King, however, was already losing the confidence and support of the citizens.

Turning to other matters, we find in this as well as the preceding Letter-Book occasional references to one or other of the General Councils—those gatherings of bishops and divines summoned from time to time by Emperor or Pope for the consideration of matters affecting the Church at large. After the death of Pope Gregory XI., in 1378, a double election to the Papal chair had taken place, one party choosing Urban VI. and another Clement VII.,[4] and so the Church became divided into two rival parties known as Urbanists and Clementists. It was

[1] It is recorded in the City's Journal of the day (Jour. 5, fo. 125b) that the news of the birth was conveyed to the City by Giles Senclowe just at the time when a new Mayor was about to be elected, and that the bearer was rewarded with a purse of 10 marks. No mention of the event is to be found in the Letter-Book.

[2] *Infra*, p. 382.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 402-3.

[4] It was to Pope Urban (who lived at Rome, whilst Clement, his rival, lived at Avignon) that the citizens of London made a corporate appeal in 1378 against creating William Courtenay (their favourite Bishop) a Cardinal, as they would lose much of his personal influence by such promotion. See 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 116.

in order, if possible, to settle the disputes between the Popes that a series of Councils were held in the first half of the fifteenth century.

The first to be held was at Pisa in 1402, when the two Popes were known as Benedict XIII. and Gregory XII. This Council formally deposed both Popes, and by way of a compromise elected Peter de Candia in their stead, under the title of Alexander V.,[1] but as the deposed Popes refused to accept their dismissal, confusion was only made worse confounded by there being three Popes in place of two.

At length, in 1414 (by which time Alexander V. had been succeeded by John XXIII.), another Council was held at Constance. This Council deposed all three Popes and elected Cardinal Otho Colonna, who, from his election having taken place on the Feast of St. Martin [11 Nov.], 1417, assumed the title of Pope Martin V.,[2] and he came to be universally acknowledged as the true Pope. The credit of having thus put an end to the Great Schism is due chiefly to the influence of the Emperor Sigismund, but not a little to Henry V. of England; and it is remarkable that it was Richard Clifford, Bishop of London, who nominated the Cardinal for the Papal chair.[3] On the 8th December the Bishop wrote from Constance to the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen of the City giving them an account of the election, and also of the appointment of Walter Medford, Dean of Wells, to be Papal Collector in England, an appointment which had already been certified to the citizens by a letter from Pope Martin himself.[4] The Bishop's letter was acknowledged by the citizens on the 18th Jan., 1418,[5] and is recorded as having been received by him on the evening of the 18th February. This reply drew forth another letter[6] from the

[1] For some particulars of this election see 'Cal. Letter-Book I, p. 79 n.

[2] 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 193 n.

[3] Walsingham, ii. 319-20: "It was the representative of the English church who nominated Pope Martin V., the creator of the modern papacy." Stubbs, 'Const. Hist.,' iii. 93.

[4] 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 193.

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] *Id.*, pp. 194-5. The letter is not dated, but was doubtless written before the Council dissolved (22 April, 1418).

Bishop, in which he again dilates upon the blessings that would result from the Council of Constance, and eulogises the conduct of the Emperor Sigismund and the unselfishness displayed by Beaufort in going off on a pilgrimage.[1]

Other proceedings of the Council were less to its credit, and notably its action towards the Bohemian and English reformers, Huss and Wycliffe, and their so-called heresies. Huss had attended the Council under a safe-conduct from the Emperor Sigismund. Nevertheless he and a fellow-countryman were condemned to be burnt by order of the Council, and burnt they were, with the result that a civil war followed.

In 1431 another Council was opened at Basle, having been transferred in succession from Pavia and Sienna to that town.[2] By that time Martin V. had been followed in the Papal chair by Eugenius IV., who in course of time became discredited by the Council and was professedly deposed. An invitation was sent for delegates from Bohemia to attend the Synod under a safe-conduct *eundo, manendo et redeundo*. A party of Hussites accordingly presented themselves before the Council, and having stoutly defended their religious opinions were allowed to depart, thanks to their safe-conduct, otherwise, in the words of the chronicler, "they hadde gon to the fyre as most men supposyd."[3]

In addition to the scanty references to the Council recorded in the Letter-Book, there is a full record of the proceedings at Basle in an ancient MS. preserved in the Guildhall Library.[4]

In 1438, whilst the Council of Basle was still existing,

[1] In the following December (1418) Beaufort informed the citizens by letter of a visit he had paid to Pope Martin (who had acknowledged his services, as already mentioned, with the offer of a Cardinal's Hat), and that he was then hastening homewards. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 208. John Coventre, a cobbler, who had accompanied the Bishop to the Holy Land, and had returned home broken down in health, was discharged by the Mayor and Aldermen, at the Bishop's request, from serving on juries, &c. *Id.*, p. 209.

[2] *Infra*, p. 145.

[3] *Infra*, p. 144 n.

[4] MS. 245. This volume was originally deposited among the archives of the City's Bridge House estate, in the custody of the City Comptroller; but in 1870 it was transferred thence to the Library on the recommendation of the Library Committee.

Eugenius summoned a Council of his own to sit in Italy, where he was still acknowledged as Pope. A Council accordingly met at Ferrara, but was soon compelled by pestilence to adjourn to Florence. It was attended by John Palæologus, "Emperor of the Romans," as well as by the Patriarch of Constantinople and other church dignitaries, and once more a strenuous effort was made to effect a reconciliation between the Eastern and Western churches. Eugenius himself was so satisfied with the result of the conference that he wrote a long letter to Henry Chichele, Archbishop of Canterbury, giving him an account of the proceedings. This letter is set out in the Letter-Book before us.[1]

A reconciliation (more nominal than real) was at length effected, for, as the City Alderman and chronicler puts it, "the Emperoure of Costantyne the Nobylle" (*i.e.*, the Emperor of Constantinople), "and hys sone, whythe all the clergy of Gryke [Greece], obeyd him unto the Chyrche of Rome of certayne artyculys of the faithe."[2] The fact of this submission having been made was publicly proclaimed at Paul's Cross on the 28th August. This was a great diplomatic triumph for Eugenius, and a corresponding blow to the rival Council of Basle.

It was from Florence that Eugenius in 1442 issued an indulgence to the Mayor and Aldermen of the City for the time being and their wives to use a portable altar (*altare portatile*),[3] for secret celebration of Mass and other services, without bell-ringing and with bated breath, in places under interdict (unless they themselves happened to be under special interdict), and before daylight if need be. This indulgence is recorded as having been granted *gratis* by the Pope's order.

The Letter-Book supplies us (among other interesting matters) with a schedule of parish churches in the City, the Wards in which each was situated, and the yearly estimated

[1] *Infra*, p. 228.

[2] Gregory, p. 182.

[3] *Infra*, p. 275. A similar indulgence of a portable altar had been granted in 1423 by Pope Martin V. to the Abbey of St. Albans, to be used in its houses in London and at Oxford. Amundesham, 'Annales Monasterii Sancti Albani' (Rolls Series, No. 28), i. 161.

value of each benefice. The schedule was drawn up by the King's orders in 1428 for the purpose of levying a tax upon householders in every parish containing at least ten inhabitant householders. The churches number 105, the parish of St. Augustine Papey being omitted as not having the necessary number of householders. The richest benefice was that of St. Sepulchre, returned as being of the yearly value of £65, the next being those of St. Laurence Jewry, St. Michael Cornhill, St. Vedast, and St. Magnus, each being of the value of £40. The rest vary in valuation from 55 marks (£36 13*s.* 4*d.*) down to 5 marks (£3 6*s.* 8*d.*).[1]

Another matter of interest in connexion with a City church recorded in the Letter-Book is the manner in which the election was to be made of a Bachelor or Doctor of Divinity for presentation to the Bishop as parson of the church of St. Peter, Cornhill—a church of which the advowson had been vested in the City by Richard Whityngton in 1411,[2] the living being valued in 1428 at £20 a year. The fact that residence in the church (*sic*) was insisted upon for the new rector seems to show that non-residence was more or less prevalent even in those days.[3]

In 1452 the civic authorities had occasion (as frequently happened) to find fault with the curates of the City for demanding excessive fees or "oblations" for their services.[4] In the thirteenth century the amount of oblations to be paid by the citizens of London to their parish priests for their various duties had been determined by what was known as the "constitution" of Roger Niger, Bishop of London (A.D. 1229-1241). This "constitution" had been confirmed by Archbishop Arundel in 1397, and again by Pope Innocent VII. in 1404. Still the curates (we are told) were dissatisfied, as is their wont (*quatenus in eis est*), and an attempt was made to effect a compromise

[1] *Infra*, pp. 71-5.

[2] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 92.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 310-11.

[4] We have seen how, in 1382, an ordinance was passed fixing the fees to be paid for baptism and marriage at a reasonable figure, whilst enforcing priests to give change for a halfpenny in the case of a mass which ought only to cost a farthing. This they had shown themselves disinclined to do, in the hope of putting an end to the currency of so small a coin. 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 183.

during the Mayoralty of John Norman (1453-4). This, however, proved abortive. The curates had already submitted their case to the Court of Rome, and the civic authorities had dispatched Roger Tonge, their Town Clerk, and Master John Aleyn as Counsel on behalf of the oppressed citizens. The instructions given to Counsel were for some reason not recorded in the Letter-Book, the space where they were to have been entered being left blank.[1]

The curates succeeded in obtaining from the Pope (Nicholas V., who had succeeded Eugenius in the Papal chair) an apostolic letter or Bull[2] in their favour, to the prejudice of the citizens at large. This coming to the ears of the civic authorities, a Common Council was called for the 12th March, 1454, when it was agreed that a visit should be paid to the Bishop of London to consult him on the matter. The meeting took place at St. Paul's the following day, when Thomas Billyng, the Recorder, acting as spokesman on behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen, laid the whole matter before the Bishop and asked to be furnished with a copy of the alleged apostolic letter. The Bishop apparently assented; but no such letter was forthcoming, in spite of every effort on the part of the City to get it. The story, as recorded in the Letter-Book, goes on to relate how a second meeting took place between the Bishop and the Mayor alone, when the former confessed that he had been asked many times for a copy of the Papal Bull, but he knew not (*et non cognosco*)... What it was he did not know we are not told, the record ending abruptly and the rest of the page (as in the case of instructions to Counsel just mentioned) being left blank.[3]

The last we hear of the matter in the Letter-Book is in a letter from the King (already referred to) addressed to the

[1] *Infra*, p. 350.

[2] This Bull is recorded as having been "purchaced by the curatis of y^e^ cite of London for their oblacions" the 6th Aug., 1453, and on the 3rd March, 1477, it was formally accepted by the Common Council of the City. Arnold's 'Customs of London,' or 'Chronicle,' p. 178; Letter-Book L, fo. 109; City Journal 8, fo. xcv.

[3] *Infra*, fo. 273-273 b.

Mayor and Commonalty from Northampton in 1460, when some kind of settlement appears to have been arrived at.[1]

In 1430 the civic authorities had occasion to challenge the right of sanctuary claimed by the Dean and Canons of the church and precinct of St. Martin le Grand from time immemorial. In the month of September the Mayor received a writ to arrest certain Canons who had fled from the Augustinian monastery of Waltham and were wandering about to the discredit of their Order. They were found to have taken refuge within the precinct of St. Martin le Grand, under the impression that there they would be free from arrest. In this they were mistaken.

The question of privilege was referred to the decision of special Commissioners, to whom both parties submitted a long series of charters and records in support of their respective claims.[2] Judgment was given in favour of the City and against the claim of privilege, with the result (according to the City's record) that the fugitive Canons were surrendered by the civic authorities to their Abbot pursuant to the writ.[3]

Ten years later (almost to a day) this question of privilege again arose. Philip Malpas, one of the Sheriffs, had occasion, on the 1st September, 1440, to send his officer to fetch a soldier out of Newgate who was defendant in a case pending in the Sheriffs' Court. Having duly received his prisoner, the officer was conducting him through the streets when he was set upon by five men,[4] of notoriously bad character, who sallied forth

[1] *Infra*, pp. 402–3.

[2] The evidences produced on this occasion by the City are set out in the Letter-Book, and fill nearly six pages (fos. 120 b-123), irrespective of the confutation by the City of the evidence adduced on behalf of the Dean and Canons (fos. 120-120 b).

[3] *Infra*, pp. 106-7, 159. According to the Register of St. Martin le Grand, as transcribed in 'Liber Fleetwood' (to be noticed more fully later on), a writ was issued for the fugitives to be restored to sanctuary, but the writ was *not obeyed*. See 'Liber Fleetwood' (Guildhall Library), fo. 136. Nevertheless, Alfred Kempe and other writers on St. Martin le Grand believe that the monks were restored to sanctuary and not delivered to their Abbot as recorded in the Letter-Book.

[4] One of the five is reported in the account of the matter by the Sheriff as being "Cristofre" Blackborn, whereas his name is recorded later (*infra*, p. 245) as "Thomas."

from the precinct of St. Martin le Grand, rescued his prisoner, and carried him into sanctuary.[1] Both he and his fellows, however, were again taken into custody; and for this breach of privilege the Sheriffs were menaced by the Dean with penalties temporal and spiritual. They laid the matter, therefore, before the Common Council on the following day, and prayed the Court that if, after consultation with John Carpenter, the late Town Clerk,[2] it was found that they had done their duty in maintaining the liberties of the City, any costs that might in consequence arise should be defrayed by the City, for the "cause," they said, was "every Fremannys cause, and defendyng of the liberties of this famous Cite is the welfare of every man that is inhabitant theryn." It is scarcely necessary to add that their prayer was granted.[3]

Whilst these proceedings were taking place at the Guildhall, the Canons of St. Martin le Grand were preparing a letter to be sent to Richard Cawdray, their Dean,[4] giving their version of what had occurred. In its main facts it tallied with the account laid before the Common Council by the Sheriffs, but it dwelt upon the indignity that had been wantonly offered to the men and of their ill-usage, which, they had been informed, was likely to cause them "to be ded in all hast"! The letter

[1] Rescues of this kind were of such frequent occurrence, that in a book of orders and decrees for the conduct of Sheriffs' Yeomen made in 1493 (recorded in Guildhall Library MS. No. 508) we find one to the effect that "every yeoman shall have allwayes in readiness one good and comely slipp to lead Prisoners in, either of Tape or Leather with a Buckle or strong Button," under penalty prescribed in case of default.

[2] So certain was Carpenter of the justice of the City's cause, and of the church of St. Martin le Grand having no more immunity than the least church in London, that he is reported as having "offered to loose his livelode" if it could be proved otherwise. See Stow's 'Survey' (Kingsford), i. 308.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 241-3. It is a curious fact that when Jack Cade and his fellows got possession of the City, ten years later (1450), Malpas's house was one of the first to be raided. Gregory, p. 192. Interesting particulars of Malpas and his family will be found in notes to Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London,' p. 314.

[4] He was also Rector of St. Botolph's, Aldersgate, and as such petitioned the Mayor and Commonalty in 1448 for a grant of a certain piece of land for the enlargement of his church. *Infra*, pp. 325-6.

is recorded in a MS. preserved in the Guildhall Library (No. 85), and known as 'Liber Fleetwood,'[1] from a City Recorder of that name, who presented it to the Corporation in 1576.[2]

The letter found the Dean at Cambridge, and immediately on its receipt he hurried to London. He first applied to the Sheriffs for restitution of the prisoners to sanctuary. Failing to get any satisfaction from them, he next applied to the Mayor and Aldermen, but they put off hearing him for five days. The delay was not to his liking, but he thought to make good use of the time by going to see the King at Windsor, in the hope that he might bring back "some letter or token by which he might have sped in his matter the better."[3]

That the Dean made the most of the case against the City in his interview with the King, and that the youthful Henry, with his morbidly sensitive and pious disposition, lent a willing ear to the story as related to him, is shown in the Letter-Book. On the 10th September a writ was issued from Windsor to the

[1] Fo. 141 b. That portion of the volume which is devoted to transcripts of charters and other documents relating to the liberties of the sanctuary of the Royal free chapel of St. Martin le Grand bears this superscription :—

"*All suche Liberties of Saint Martyns le Graund in London which heretofore have byn moste secretly kept from knowledge of this Citie.*"

They appear to have been copied from the Cartulary or Register of St. Martin le Grand preserved among the archives belonging to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, to whom the church and precinct of St. Martin became appropriated early in the sixteenth century. Notwithstanding the jealous manner in which it was guarded from prying eyes of the City, Stow, the chronicler, was acquainted with the book, and was even allowed to make extracts from it. (See Stow's 'Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 307-8.) On the other hand, Alfred Kempe, the author of 'Historical Notices of the Collegiate Church.....of St. Martin le Grand' (London, 1825), bitterly laments that he was not allowed to consult the volume, but had to content himself with a transcript of it preserved among the Lansdowne MSS. in the British Museum. In 1607 'Liber Fleetwood' was believed to be in the hands of Sir Robert Cotton, who had appropriated other records of the City (Repertory 28, fo. 117 b). This, however, seems doubtful, although Mr. Kingsford states that "Cotton gave up the 'Liber Fleetwood' in 1610" (Introd. to Stow's 'Survey,' p. xxxii, note). In that year the book was not among the City's Archives, but was, it appears, in the hands of Henry Mountagu, the City's Recorder, who was to be entreated to restore it (Repertory 30, fo. 44 b).

[2] Repertory 19, fo. 123.

[3] Fleetwood, fos. 142 b-3.

Mayor and Sheriffs peremptorily ordering them to restore the five prisoners to sanctuary. This was followed the next day by a long and severe letter (*satis exasperatas*), addressed to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs, in which the King called attention to the complaints that had recently been made of numerous usurpations against privileged places of royal foundation, and told them that he was in duty bound by his coronation oath to suppress these attacks against God and his Church. The letter went on to say that it had lately come to his knowledge that the Sheriffs of London ten days before had taken five men from the church and sanctuary of St. Martin le Grand, where they had sought refuge, and had carried them fettered through the public streets to one of the Compters, whence they had been removed to Newgate, chained by the neck in pairs, and naked except for their linen coverings. He marvelled at such conduct on the part of the Sheriffs, who ought to have known better than to take the law into their own hands, and gave orders for the immediate restoration of the prisoners to sanctuary.[1]

This letter with the writ, we are told, was delivered to the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen by Lord Huntingdon in the Tower of London, the bearer being specially commissioned to let the King know how it was received.[2] The civic authorities declined to open the missives whilst in the Tower, it being at privileged place, but retired to Barking Church as being within their own jurisdiction.[3]

The rest of the story, as recorded in the Letter-Book,[4] is to the effect that, after perusing the letter and writ and appreciating the seriousness of the matter, they decided that the Mayor and eight of the Aldermen should proceed with all speed to Waltham in order to give a personal explanation to the King, and that on their arrival they were informed by the Bishop of

[1] *Infra*, pp. 243-5.

[2] Fleetwood, fo. 143 b.

[3] *Id.*, fos. 144 b, 145 b. It will be remembered that in 1285, when the Mayor, Gregory de Rokesle, was summoned to the Tower to appear before the King's Justices, he refused to enter the Tower as Mayor, but went first to Barking Church, where he laid down his office in order to enter the Tower as a mere Alderman and citizen. 'Liber Albus,' i. 16.

[4] *Infra*, pp. 245-6.

Salisbury and others, on the King's behalf, that the matter would be tried at Common Law; that the prisoners remained where they were until brought before the Chancellor by virtue of a writ of *corpus cum causa;* and that, as no prosecutors appeared, the men were remitted to sanctuary, and so the matter ended.

A very different account is given in the Cartulary. From that we learn that a deputation proceeded to "Copped Halle," near Waltham,[1] in order to explain their conduct to the King, but "the King was so displeased that he wolde not suffer the said Maire Shirifs and Aldermen ne none of their Counsail to come in his presence." They were afforded an opportunity, however, of laying their case before the Bishop of Salisbury and others appointed to hear them, and having done so they ended by assuring the Bishop that they would gladly deliver up the prisoners if the King should so order.[2] Their statements having been reported to the King they received a reply to the effect that, as they had not thought proper to obey his letter and writ in the first instance, he should refer the matter to the "Lordes of his blode and greate counsaile" at their next meeting, and "as þei had done so should þei have." With this answer the citizens, we are told, departed "right hevyly."[3]

In due course the matter was heard before the Chancellor, the Treasurer, Sir Ralph Botiller, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was added "for þe ryght of þe chirch,"[4] both parties supporting their claim by evidence in writing.[5] All the evidence having been put in, it was submitted to Sir John Hody, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and Sir Richard Newton, Chief Justice of Common Pleas, sitting in the "sterred chamber," to consider and report thereon.[6] These Justices having declared their opinion in favour of the Dean of St. Martin's, the King

[1] A fine seat between Epping and Waltham, the property of the Abbots of Waltham. A mansion of the same name still occupies the site.

[2] Fleetwood, fos. 145b-146 b.

[3] *Id.*, fo. 146 b.

[4] *Id.*, fo. 147.

[5] *Id.*, fos. 149 b-160. Much of the evidence is the same as that recorded under the year 1430. *Infra*, pp. 151-160.

[6] *Id.*, fo. 160.

directed his Chancellor and Treasurer to decree the restoration of the prisoners to sanctuary, and to see that the Sheriffs were duly punished for their disobedience.[1]

It is difficult to reconcile these two accounts of the issue of the matter. It is certain, however, that the civic authorities came off second best in their encounter with the ecclesiastical, backed up by the Crown, for from a record of the proceedings on the Patent Roll[2] we learn that the prisoners were surrendered, in the presence of the Sheriffs, the Recorder, and the City's Council, to the King's Serjeant-at-arms, who delivered them to the Dean on the eve of All Saints (A.D. 1440).

In 1455, when the country was disturbed by the conflict between the houses of Lancaster and York, trouble again arose between the civic authorities and the Dean and Chapter of St. Martin le Grand. Once more it became necessary to arrest certain rioters within the precincts of the sanctuary. The Dean, as usual, preferred his complaint of breach of privilege to the King, and the City was again put on its defence. The King, having heard that the rioters were to be executed, hastily sent a letter to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs, ordering them to restore the prisoners to sanctuary; but after hearing the City Recorder on the matter he changed his mind, and on the 27th September dispatched a second letter, under his "signet of the Egle" from Hertford (where he was living on account of his health), informing them that, as the matter was to be fully considered by his Council, the delinquents should be kept in custody to await the result. At the same time he promised that due regard would be paid to the City's rights and privileges.[3] As to the final outcome, we are left in the dark. What we do know, however, is that the frequent abuse of the sanctuary afforded by the precinct of St. Martin le Grand and the consequent disquietude thereby occasioned in the City led to articles being drawn up by the King's Council in 1457 for its better government. These articles are recorded

[1] Fleetwood, fo. 161.

[2] Cal. Pat. Rolls 19 Hen. VI., part iii., pp. 569-70.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 370-1.

in the Letter-Book.[1] Thenceforth a register was to be kept of the names of those seeking sanctuary and of the reasons for their so doing; no weapons were to be carried except a pointless knife for use at meals; notorious criminals were to find surety for their good behaviour whilst in sanctuary and for a quarter of a year after leaving; goods brought into the sanctuary and proved to be stolen were to be restored to their rightful owners; "sotile pikers of lokkes," forgers, makers of counterfeit jewellery, and immoral characters were not to be allowed within the gates; and games of chance, the "quek,"[2] "kayelles,"[3] and "cloissh,"[4] and other unlawful and "reprovable games," were not to be "used, supported, nor cherisshed" within the sanctuary.

The Letter-Book adds to our previous knowledge as to the various methods of obtaining the City franchise. We have seen how, customarily, there were three ways of acquiring the freedom of the City, viz.: (1) by birth or "patrimony"; (2) by apprenticeship or "servitude"; and (3) by purchase or "redemption."[5] There was yet another way, however, of obtaining the franchise, and that was by direct petition to the Mayor himself, who during his year of office was at one period allowed to make six men free of the City. This last method is described in the Letter-Book before us as being *par prier* or *je vous pries*,[6] and does not appear to have been habitually practised. Indeed, some Mayors appear to have disapproved of it. William Staundone, for instance, declined in 1408 to exercise his prerogative, and thereupon it was ordained that both he and any succeeding Mayor who followed his example should receive from the Chamberlain *two* casks of

[1] *Infra*, p. 392. They are printed in Strype's edition of Stow's 'Survey,' book iii., pp. 103-5; cf. Kempe, pp. 146-51.

[2] Chequer-board.

[3] Skittles. F. *quilles*.

[4] Probably the game of bowls. The games here mentioned were made unlawful by statute in 1477. Stat. 17 Edw. IV. cap. iii., "jeuez appelles closhe, keyles.....ou quekeborde."

[5] See 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' Introd., p. ii; 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 179.

[6] *Infra*, pp. 34, 161.

wine for surrender of their privilege.[1] In 1434 this prerogative was abolished by order of the Common Council, and *four* casks of wine were granted to successive Mayors in lieu thereof.[2]

Two years after Staundone's act of renunciation, when the Parliament of 1410 was sitting, Thomas Chaucer, son of the poet, being at the time the King's Butler and taker of his wines (*captor vinorum*), had occasion to complain of the loss sustained by the King on his "prisage" of wines by foreigners outside the City evading payment by becoming freemen, either through the Mayor or by redemption on payment of a nominal sum.[3] The result of Chaucer's proceedings in Parliament was an ordinance that all persons enfranchised *par prier* or by redemption should thenceforth pay the "prises" and customs due to the King for their wines as though they had not been enfranchised.[4]

Not only the King but the citizens themselves suffered from "foreigners as well strangers as denizens," gaining easy admission to the freedom of the City, either by petition to the Mayor for the time being, or by redemption through one of the

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 64, where the year has been inadvertently given as 1409.

[2] *Infra*, p. 180. A custom nevertheless grew up in later times of allowing those who had deserved well of the Corporation to dispose of a certain number of freedoms for their own benefit. In the time of Queen Elizabeth even the wife of the Lord Mayor acquired the privilege of making one person free of the City (Rep. 18, fo. 265), and the Lady Mayoress for the time being appears to have exercised this privilege down to 1856, when all such rights (including *three* freedoms appertaining then to the Mayor by prerogative) were commuted for money payments by the Corporation. See Printed Report Co. Co. on 'Sale of Freedoms,' 12 June, 1856.

[3] *Infra*, p. 35. A similar objection to the admission of these foreigners, or "foreigners of the country" as they were sometimes called ('Letter-Book L,' fo. 18 b), by redemption had been made in 1408, when an ordinance was passed to the effect that thenceforth they should only become free by apprenticeship, but this ordinance appears to have had little effect. See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 63. It may be added that in 1579 admission to the freedom was denied to a non-resident in the City on the ground that if made a freeman he would become exempt from "prisage" to the prejudice of Her Majesty and also to the Earl of Warwick in his "office of butlerage." Analytical Index to the City 'Remembrancia,' p. 146.

[4] *Infra*, p. 34.

Guilds with the particular craft of which they were as often as not wholly unconnected. At a time when the Guilds controlled the trade or craft they nominally represented such a procedure was contrary to the custom of the City, and on that account certain foreigners who had thus become freemen had been disfranchised in 1385.[1] Nevertheless, the practice continued in spite of all prohibition until the citizens, finding themselves in 1433 overburdened with taxation, at last prayed the Mayor and Aldermen for relief, for (said they) it was "better to amend late than never."[2]

It was thereupon decreed that those who had thus fraudulently obtained the freedom should be disfranchised, and that thenceforth no one should be admitted to the freedom by redemption in any Fellowship, without a guarantee that such admission was not prejudicial to another Fellowship.[3] To this must be ascribed, in some measure at least, the large number of "translations" from one Guild to another (or "changing of copie," as Stow calls it[4]) recorded in the Letter-Book. On the other hand, the great incongruity that oftentimes existed between the mistery or craft governed by the Fraternity which a citizen was leaving and that to which he was being translated may probably be explained by his having become a member of his original Fraternity by *patrimony*, his father having exercised its particular craft, whereas the son, having to strike out a new line for his livelihood, followed another craft.[5] In such a case there would have been no idea of fraud.

In course of time freedom by redemption came into such disrepute that, in 1430, we find the Mayor directing the Aldermen to see that those elected in their Wardmotes to the Common Council were freemen by birth or apprenticeship, and not by redemption; and similar precepts were issued in 1434,[6] but these appear to be exceptional cases.

[1] 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 257-60.

[2] *Infra*, pp. 161-2.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 163-6.

[4] "Symon Eyre sometime an Upholster then by changing of his copie a Draper." 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 153.

[5] Thus we find translations taking place from the Mistery of Drapers to that of Goldsmiths, and to the Drapers from that of Ironmongers, and many other instances of the kind.

[6] *Infra*, pp. 117, 190.

Even the system of admission to the franchise by apprenticeship had its weak points. So many youths abandoned the country in order to bind themselves apprentice in the City of London and other towns that agricultural labour could with difficulty be obtained, and the countryside or "upland" became impoverished. By way of a remedy a statute was passed in 1407 (Stat. 9 Hen. IV., cap. xvii.) forbidding any one to put his son or daughter as an apprentice unless he himself was possessed of at least 20*s.* a year in land or rent. The statute proved a failure, and in 1429 it was repealed (Stat. 8 Henry VI., cap. xi.) on petition of the citizens of London, who did not like their ancient customs interfered with.[1]

On the other hand, apprenticeship without restriction had its drawback. Thus, in 1435, we find a petition to the Mayor and Aldermen from certain girdlers praying that an ordinance restricting the number of apprentices to be taken by members of the craft which had been formerly made (but not enrolled), and to which no penalty had been attached for non-observance, might be enrolled and enforced by a penalty. They desired this for the reason that the number of apprentices had become so excessive that they took the bread out of the mouths of freemen of the craft, so that the latter had to return to agricultural pursuits for lack of work.[2]

Again, in 1456, the Wardens of the Mistery of Founders had occasion to complain to the Mayor and Aldermen that members of the Fraternity were in the habit of taking three or four apprentices when they were unable either to teach or support so many. Thereupon an ordinance was passed forbidding the employment of more than two apprentices at a time, the same being first approved as to their physique[3] by the Wardens, but allowing another one to be taken two years before the expiration of the term of either of the two standing apprentices, in order that he might have time to be taught his business.[4]

[1] *Vide infra*, pp. 87, 105, 116.

[2] *Infra*, p. 200.

[3] They were to be "hole of lymmes" for the credit of the City. See an ordinance made in 1420 to similar effect. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 250.

[4] *Infra*, pp. 375-6.

Aliens, moreover, were in the habit of acquiring the franchise by apprenticeship in the Fraternities no less than by redemption, to the prejudice of the native apprentices, who found themselves ousted by the foreigner from their occupation, and driven to get a livelihood as best they could.[1] Restrictions were accordingly placed on this practice, and it became dangerous to take foreigners as apprentices even under a misapprehension that they were natives.[2]

The large number of aliens that was always to be found, not only in the City of London, but throughout the country, was eventually seized upon by Parliament as an opportunity for raising money, and a tax was, for the first time, imposed upon them in 1439.[3] This tax proved such a success that it was renewed, and in 1453 was made permanent for the King's lifetime.[4] Every year a return had to be made of the names of all foreigners resident in the City, both householders and non-householders, for the purpose of levying sixteenpence a head on the former and sixpence a head on the latter.[5]

The presence of aliens in the City had always been a source of danger. This was so well understood that whoever harboured them was bound to bring them before the Mayor within twenty-four hours of their arrival in order that they might give account of themselves.[6] In 1456 and again in 1457 there was a "hurling" against foreigners in the City, and more especially against Lombards, who were characterized as extortionate in their dealings and addicted to gross immorality.[7]

[1] See the petition of the Masters and Wardens of the Cordwainers and Merchant Tailors in 1451 praying the Mayor and Aldermen to place restrictions upon the employment of foreigners. *Infra*, pp. 335-8.

[2] See the petition of a glover who took two apprentices whom he thought to be natives of England, whereas they proved to have been born in Flanders. He prayed that, nevertheless, they might be admitted into the freedom of the City after completing their term of service. *Infra*, p. 353.

[3] *Infra*, p. 236.

[4] 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 230.

[5] Cf. *infra*, pp. 259, 270, 368.

[6] See the ordinances of the Hostelers in 1446. *Infra*, pp. 316-18. For other restrictions imposed on foreigners see 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' pp. 58, 282-3; 'Cal. E,' p. 214; 'Cal. F,' pp. 229, 242-3; 'Liber Albus,' i. 332; 'Liber Cust.,' i. 68-71.

[7] Evidence was given by Thomas

The rising of 1456 is only incidentally mentioned in the Letter-Book,[1] although it was serious enough (according to one chronicler) to cause the King and Queen to leave London for the country[2]; but the Letter-Book affords us an excellent insight into the workings of the conspiracy of 1457 in the evidence that was taken before the Mayor and Aldermen when investigating the matter. This evidence is recorded at considerable length, and is of so interesting a character that it has been fully set out in the Calendar.[3] From this it appears that the head-quarters of the conspirators lay in the Tower Royal, where lessons were given in sword-play, but for greater security they had other quarters in the northern suburb of Hoxton. By the time that the civic authorities began to investigate the matter, the chief conspirators had made good their escape; of the rest a comparatively few were committed to prison.

It is scarcely necessary to remind the reader that there was one way by which a serf or bondman (*nativus*) could obtain free condition, if not, indeed, civic rights.[4] This was by escaping from his master into the City of London or other walled town, and there residing for a year and a day without being reclaimed.[5] In June, 1428, the Sheriffs of London received a writ to arrest two men, if found in their bailiwick, on the ground that they were villeins and fugitives claimed by their masters. The return made to the writ was to the effect that the men who were to be arrested had been living undisturbed in the City for forty years, and had always been reputed of honest conversation and of free condition; the Sheriffs were unable, therefore, to execute the

Clement before the Mayor and Aldermen, as some excuse for his joining the rising of 1457, that a Lombard had held his wife "in avoutry" to his perpetual shame. *Infra*, fo. 296 b. About the same time the Letter-Book records the existence of a disorderly house kept by a Lombard in Walbrook Ward. *Vide infra*, p. 378.

[1] *Infra*, p. 390.

[2] Cotton MS. Vitellius A xvi., fos. 112-13 (Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London,' pp. 166-7). Cf. Fabyan, p. 630.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 385-90.

[4] Until a bondman had, indeed, acquired free condition he was barred from the civic franchise. 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 309.

[5] By writ of replevin, or *de nativo replegiando*. *Vide infra*, pp. 90, 91. Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' Introd., pp. vii, viii.

writ without prejudice to the City's rights and customs.[1] The matter was not allowed to drop, for in the following January the Mayor and Aldermen received a writ of certiorari touching the custom, the return to which is set out at considerable length in the Letter-Book.[2]

There was one (apparent) drawback to the full enjoyment of the City franchise, namely, that one citizen could not bring an action against another citizen at common law, outside the City, in a matter which could be decided in the City's Courts, without special permission from the Mayor. This restriction dates as far back as the time of Henry III.,[3] and every one on his admission to the franchise was bound by oath to respect it.[4] Licences to prosecute at common law outside the City, generally for some special reason, are frequently to be found recorded in the Letter-Books, but the number of cases in which such action was taken, without permission first obtained, increased to such a degree that in 1454 the Common Council decreed that any prosecutor who refused to withdraw his suit at the bidding of the Mayor should not only lose his franchise but pay the defendant his costs and damages as well as incur a fine to the Chamber for his contempt.[5]

The reign of Henry VI. was more remarkable for the advancement of the trade and craft Guilds or Fraternities than even that of Edward III. Those of them that were not already in enjoyment of charters of incorporation, like the Grocers,[6] the Fishmongers,[7] the Drapers,[8] and the Haberdashers,[9] obtained charters for the first time, whilst others like the Mercers[10] and the Tailors[11] had their existing charters of incorporation confirmed and amplified.[12]

[1] *Infra*, p. 80.
[2] *Infra*, pp. 90-1.
[3] See charter 26 March, 1268.
[4] See Oath of Freemen, 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' p. 196.
[5] *Infra*, pp. 363-4.
[6] *Infra*, p. 226.
[7] *Infra*, p. 225.
[8] *Infra*, pp. 224-5.
[9] *Infra*, p. 330.
[10] *Infra*, pp. 225-6.
[11] Herbert, 'Twelve Livery Companies,' ii. 520-9.
[12] It has been said that until the accession of the House of Lancaster "the charters of the Companies contain no words of incorporation" (Pulling, 'Laws and Customs of the City,' &c., p. 71); such a statement is inaccurate. It would be more

To such an extent, moreover, had the power of the Masters and Wardens over the various trades increased, not only in the City of London, but throughout the country, that the matter came before Parliament in 1437, the "commons" of Guilds corporate complaining to the King of unreasonable ordinances being made by the Masters and Wardens for private gain and not for the public weal. It was thereupon enacted that the Masters and Wardens of all such corporate bodies should bring in their charters and letters patent by a certain day and cause them to be recorded before the Justices of the Peace or Governors of the cities, boroughs, or towns in which such Guilds existed, and that all ordinances should be approved and enrolled before such Justices before being put into force.[1] The statute did not affect the London Guilds so much as those in the provinces, for ordinances made by the Masters and Wardens of the former had from the earliest times to be submitted for approval to the civic authorities before being enforced.[2]

There were occasions, indeed, when the Masters and Wardens of a Guild were only too ready to invoke the assistance of the Court of Aldermen, and notably when the yeomen, or servants, of a Guild got out of hand and sought to establish a Guild of their own. Such a case (we have seen) arose in 1415 when the

correct to say that incorporation, which up to that period had been an exceptional privilege, became now the rule rather than an exception.

[1] Stat. 15 Hen. VI., cap. 6; 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 507. It has been said (Unwin, 'Gilds and Companies of London,' pp. 162, 170) that this Act was promoted by the City of London, and that the City had "evidently" been foremost in procuring this legislation. No authority is given for this statement. On the other hand, the preamble of the Act distinctly points to its having been occasioned by the misfeasance of Masters and Wardens of corporate bodies in *divers parts of the realm.*

[2] Among the ordinances of various Guilds recorded in the Letter-Book as having been submitted for approval either before or after the enactment, or both, are those of the Armourers, the Bakers, the Barbers, the Bowyers, the Broderers, the Butchers, the Cardmakers, the Coopers, the Coppersmiths, the Cordwainers, the Curriers, the Drapers, the Dyers, the Flecchers, the Founders, the Fusters, the Girdlers, the Horners, the Hostelers, the Leathersellers, the Parish Clerks, the Pewterers, the Poulterers, the Pynners, the Shermen, the Skinners, the Tailors and Linen Armourers, the Text-writers and the Turners.

"yomen taillours" became insubordinate to the Masters of the Guild, as recorded in the previous Letter-Book;[1] and a similar case is recorded at considerable length in the Letter-Book before us, under date 1441, in connexion with the Bakers of the City.[2] Not only did the Wardens of the craft complain of their servants having a brotherhood, a revelling hall, and "clothyng" or livery, but also of their demand for higher wages and less hours of work, as well as of their combination to thwart their masters on every possible occasion.

The servants replied in detail to the charges brought against them, more especially as to the charge of seeking higher wages. These they declared to be the same as of old as regarded the "Fourner," who had the care of the oven; the "Whitehew," who cut up the white dough; and the "Sowreour," who added the sour yeast or leaven. As to their hours of work, they were specially aggrieved by an ordinance made by their masters to the effect that if any servant went home any night to his wife he should pay his master the next day the sum of ten pence "with oute eny redempcion."

After hearing and considering the statements put forth by both parties the Mayor and Aldermen gave judgment in much the same terms as they had done in 1415. They pronounced against the formation of private and unlawful fraternities under colour of piety or other fiction, and decreed that servant bakers should be subject to their masters and to the Wardens of the Mistery, and should have no clothing or livery.

Again, in 1444, journeymen weavers claimed the right of electing the Wardens of the Mistery, and sought to have their claim upheld by the Mayor and Aldermen against masters of the craft, being householders, who for the last six years had, as they alleged, overridden their claim. It is scarcely a matter for surprise that judgment went against them.[3]

[1] 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' pp. 136-7.

[2] *Infra*, pp. 263-6.

[3] *Infra*, p. 290. It is to be noted that in the Letter-Book itself a distinction is drawn between the Masters or Wardens of the Mistery (*Mistere*) or Guild and masters of the mistery (*mistere*) or craft—men who had passed through their apprenticeship. The distinction has been overlooked by

These and similar attempts made from time to time by the servants or journeymen of a trade or craft to break away from authority, and to combine together for their own ends, regardless of the welfare of the community at large, find a parallel in the action of trade unions at the present day.

In 1435 a curious conflict arose between the City and the Crown on the appointment of a sub-coroner. Throughout the Letter-Books we frequently meet with writs to the Mayor and Sheriffs to admit deputies to execute the duties of Coroner in the City on behalf of the King's Butler who was *ex officio* Coroner, but unable to carry out the duties of his office owing to pressure of other business. The civic authorities do not appear on such occasions to have ever hesitated to admit into office such nominees of the Coroner for the time being until 1435. In that year, however, they refused to admit John Forthey as deputy to Ralph Botiller, the City's Coroner, and the reasons they gave for such refusal are somewhat remarkable.[1]

In the first place, they say that before the year 1275, when the statute (3 Edw. I. cap. x.) specifying the class of men to be elected Coroners in the shires was enacted, the citizens of London had elected their own Coroner by authority of King and Parliament, and that the duties of the Coroner had always been executed in the name of the *Chamberlain of London*. The latter part of this statement is distinctly false, for (as already pointed out) it was not the Chamberlain "of London" or "of the Guildhall" who executed the office of Coroner in the City, but the *King's Chamberlain*.[2]

Secondly, they say that by virtue of the statute of 1275 the election of a Coroner is lawfully made in the City or County of London, and appertains to the Mayor and citizens of the same. If this were true, it is strange that hitherto not a single election

the Editor in this case when passing it through the press, although for the most part it has been observed.

[1] *Infra*, p. 187.

[2] 'Cal. Letter-Book B,' Introd., pp. vii, viii; 'Cal. Letter-Book E,' Introd., pp. iv, v. Cf. Madox, 'Hist. of the Exchequer' (ed. 1711), p. 526.

of a Coroner is recorded in the Letter-Books; stranger still, that the citizens should have been content in 1478 to release King Edward IV. from a debt of £7,000 (a large sum in those days) for the privilege of electing their own Coroner, so soon as that office, then vested in Anthony Woodville, Earl Rivers, the Queen's brother (and the King's Chief Butler), should become vacant.[1]

Why the Mayor and Sheriffs should have gone out of their way to oppose Henry VI. on this occasion it is difficult to say. Possibly the attitude taken up by the Barons of the Exchequer towards Robert Otteley, the Mayor, when he went before them to be sworn into office in the previous month of October, may have had something to do with it. A statute had recently been enacted to the effect that in every City and borough there should be kept a common sealed bushel according with the standard in the Exchequer, and also a common balance; and further, that the Mayor of London for the time being, at his first coming to the Exchequer to be sworn into office, should be charged in his oath, like other Mayors and Bailiffs, to execute the said statute. On the 22nd October the King had issued his writ to the Barons of the Exchequer, bidding them see that the provisions of the statute were duly carried out. When therefore the new Mayor presented himself before them, a week later, to be sworn into office, he was required to take a special oath that he would observe the statute, besides the customary oath dating back to the time of Edward III. Thereupon John Symond, the Recorder, explained on the Mayor's behalf why he hesitated to take the additional oath. He had already taken an oath in the City that he would preserve the City's liberties and customs, and among these there was one which vested in the Mayor and Aldermen the supervision of all victuals coming into the City.[2] This had received confirmation from the present King, who had also guaranteed the City's ancient liberties, and on that account the Mayor did not think he ought to be compelled to take the additional oath, but he was prepared to do as the Court might

[1] Charter dated 20 June, 18 Edw. IV. | [2] By Stat. 7 Richard II., cap. xi.

direct. Thereupon the Court ordered him to take both oaths, or show cause in writing why he should not do so. Otteley took the usual oath, and a day was named for him to show cause why he should not take the special oath. When that day arrived he pleaded that by the oath he had already taken he was bound to observe the statute in question as well as all other statutes passed by Parliament, but as regards the keeping of a common bushel in the City sealed and corresponding to the standard bushel in the Exchequer, he submitted that such a course was not necessary, inasmuch as standard weights and measures, duly sealed and marked, had been preserved in the City from time immemorial.[1]

These pleadings were rebutted at considerable length by John Vampage, on the King's behalf, and a sur-rebutter put in by the Mayor; but the ultimate issue in this, as in many other cases, is not recorded in the Letter-Book. We find recorded, however, a little further on, a memorandum of various statutes from the time of King John down to the reign of Edward III., purporting to show that the standard weights and measures of London took precedence of the standard weights and measures of the Exchequer.[2] This memorandum may have been drawn up and placed on record with a view to any renewal of the question of taking the additional oath arising when Otteley's successors in the Mayoralty chair should come before the Barons of the Exchequer to be sworn, as, indeed, it did arise in the following October (1435), when Henry Frowyk came to be sworn,[3] but as to the ultimate issue the Letter-Book is again silent.

The Letter-Book contains interesting matter in relation to various tolls claimed by the City. We have already seen how the right of the Sheriffs to demand payment of the custom of scavage from Italian merchants had been questioned in 1396;

[1] *Infra*, pp. 184-6. It is noteworthy that Robert Otteley was a member of the Grocers' Guild, a Guild especially interested in weighing goods.

[2] *Infra*, p. 192.

[3] *Infra*, p. 195.

how for twelve years these merchants had succeeded in evading payment, and how on the strength of this certain Genoese merchants petitioned the Mayor and Aldermen that thenceforth Italian merchants might be discharged from such payment as a matter of justice.[1] After due consideration, and consultation of the City's records, the Mayor and Aldermen on that occasion gave judgment against the petitioners.

In or about the year 1433 (the precise date is uncertain) the City's right to scavage was again questioned, and the matter was referred for consideration to Justices Cheyne, Babyngton, and Juyn, who were to report their finding to the Lords of the Council. The City's case is set out in the Letter-Book,[2] and it embraces an indenture recently executed whereby certain Genoese merchants undertook to pay scavage in future on their merchandise brought to the City. We are left in the dark as to the nature of the report made on this occasion to the Lords of the Council. It is clear, however, that difficulties continued to arise between the City and Genoa, for in 1440 the matter was referred to the Chief Justices of both Benches and the chief Baron of the Exchequer,[3] but again the result is not recorded.

At length, in October, 1454, a compromise was effected by an agreement that merchants of Genoa should thenceforth pay a fixed yearly sum of £28 in discharge of scavage dues on merchandise coming to the City from the port of Southampton, and in the following February the Mayor and Sheriffs are recorded as giving an acquittance for a moiety of that sum on that account.[4]

[1] 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 429-30.

[2] *Infra*, pp. 174-6. The term "scavage" is there recorded as being of Saxon origin, and as meaning in English "showing," Latin *demonstratio*, and signifying a payment made by foreign merchants for showing their merchandise brought for sale into the City to the King's officers (*i.e.*, the Sheriffs) in order that custom might be levied thereon. One half of the custom went to the Sheriffs, and the other to the hosts harbouring the foreign merchants. See 'Liber Albus,' i. 223; 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 350-1. The term also appears as "scawang" or "skawange," "scawage" and "scuage." Lat. *skun[v?]agium* or *escuagium*, *scawanga*, and *scawagium*.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 252-3.

[4] *Infra*, pp. 366, 367.

There was another toll which freemen bakers of the City frequently tried to evade. As far back as the year 1281 the King had ordered that corn sent to millers to be ground and the flour produced therefrom should correspond in weight.[1] It was necessary, therefore, that the civic authorities should provide weights and balances as well as places where corn and flour could be weighed. In order to defray the cost of supplying these wants, it was decreed that bakers should pay to the Mayor for the time being one halfpenny for weighing a quarter of corn and one farthing for a half-quarter, the custom or duty so paid for weighing being known as "pesage."

Henry Waleys was Mayor at the time of the issue of the King's writ in 1281, and he is recorded as being the first Mayor who "had the grain weighed when going to the mill, and after that the flour," and as having introduced the hurdle as a punishment "for drawing the bakers thereon."[2] Whether the hurdle was intended for those bakers who objected to pay "pesage" or those who were guilty of fraudulence in their trade we are not told. We know, however, that the exaction of the toll pressed so heavily upon the bakers that they took the opportunity of the Justices holding their historical *Iter* at the Tower in 1321 to present a petition to the King for relief. Thereupon the Justices were commanded to investigate the alleged grievance and to do what was right in the matter. Their proceedings, which are set out at some length in the City's 'Liber Custumarum' (i. 326-33, 379-81), proved indecisive, and the matter was adjourned for consideration by the King and his Council. That the result was not in favour of the bakers may be gathered from the fact that the ordinance of 1281 was confirmed by letters patent of Edward III. in 1327. The toll continued to cause considerable friction between the bakers of the City and the civic authorities, insomuch that an attempt appears to have been made in the fifteenth century to compound it for an annual payment to the

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' p. 213.

[2] Aungier, 'French Chron.' (Riley's transl.), p. 240. Cf. 'Liber Cust.,' i. 329.

Mayor of 50 marks, but this proved a failure.[1] In 1453 matters were brought to a climax by proceedings at law being taken by Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, against eleven recalcitrant bakers, when the civic authorities again won the day.[2]

The same year, 1453, witnessed a fresh arrangement between the Corporation and the Prior and Convent of St. Bartholomew in West Smithfield touching tolls levied at St. Bartholomew Fair. In 1377 the Prior of St. Bartholomew's had been summoned to the Guildhall to show by what authority he took toll on the City's soil at Smithfield during the three days in the month of August[3] on which was held St. Bartholomew Fair. He had then produced as his authority for so doing a charter of Henry I., but as this charter made no mention of the toll then in dispute, viz., pickage,[4] the Common Serjeant was instructed to levy the toll and account for the same to the Chamber. As to other customs levied on merchants trading at the Fair, it had then been agreed between the Corporation and the Prior that they should be jointly collected by the Common Serjeant and the Prior's Bailiff, and a return made of the amount received.[5]

This arrangement appears to have worked satisfactorily until 1453, when a fresh agreement was entered into between the Corporation and the Prior.[6] This was to the effect that both "pickage" and "stallage" (a toll paid for erecting booths) levied outside the precincts of the Priory should belong to the City, whilst the same tolls levied within the precincts should belong to the Prior and Convent. The oversight of weights and measures both within and without the precinct was to be exercised by the Mayor and Commonalty; but the Prior was to be allowed to join the Mayor in his yearly visit for the purpose

[1] *Infra*, p. 358, note 3.

[2] *Infra*, pp. 358-60. Two years later (Sept., 1455) the Mayor and Sheriffs received a mandamus to bring up the body of John Mabewe, one of these bakers. A return was made to the effect that he had been committed to prison for refusing to pay "pesage" and for using opprobrious language, but that he should be brought up pursuant to the King's orders. *Infra*, fo. 281 b.

[3] See 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 310.

[4] A payment made to the owner of the soil for breaking ground for the erection of booths, &c.

[5] 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 70-1.

[6] *Infra*, pp. 354-5.

within the precinct. The Prior was to hold his Court of pie-powder[1] by his Steward or other person learned in law in conjunction with the City's Common Serjeant, one of the under Sheriffs, or some other person learned in law, appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen, and all fines and amercements issuing from the Court were to be for the use of the Prior for the time being and his successors.

The reign of Henry VI. is remarkable for many benefactions bestowed on the citizens of London by wealthy and munificent Aldermen, as testified by the Letter-Book. Among these Richard Whityngton stands preeminent. Not only the edifice of the Guildhall itself, but also the Library attached to it, were largely helped by contributions from his estate at the hands of his executors, who doubtless had been made aware of the testator's wishes, although not committed to writing, so far as can be ascertained. One of his executors was John Carpenter, the City's Town Clerk, and so great was the confidence placed in him and his co-executors that the whole charge of the Guildhall Library was committed to them.[2] The Letter-Book records a petition to the Mayor and Aldermen in 1444 by John Clipstone, the Keeper of the Library, praying for some assurance of the continuation of his "lyflode," which assurance was readily granted.[3]

Actuated by the same motives, the executors of Whityngton devoted part of his estate to the rebuilding of Newgate,[4] and we have the ordinances made in 1431 for regulating the new prison.[5] The condition of those confined in the gaols and Sheriffs' Compters in those days was indeed pitiable. A recognized system of publicly soliciting alms on their behalf

[1] *Curia pedis pulverisati*, so called from its being a court of a market or fair for settling by the law merchant disputes of wayfaring merchants with *dusty feet*. A very interesting account of the court by the late Dr. Charles Gross, of Harvard University, is printed in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, vol. xx., February, 1906. It appears that proceedings of Bartholomew Fair pie-powder court from 1790 to about 1853 are still extant. See *Notes and Queries*, 2nd Ser., vii. 498.

[2] *Infra*, p. 53.

[3] *Infra*, p. 295.

[4] *Infra*, pp. 19, 49.

[5] *Infra*, pp. 124-7.

had grown up, and gave rise to much abuse. It became necessary to limit the number of those who solicited to two couples, each couple being assigned a certain portion of the City wherein to beg, and each having a box and saucer marked in such a way as to identify the prison on behalf of which they were engaged.

The accommodation provided for prisoners in Newgate varied according as they happened to be enfranchised or strangers to the civic freedom. Thus freemen and "other honest persons" lived in rooms provided with chimneys[1] and privies on the north side of the prison, whilst free and honest women enjoyed similar accommodation on the south side; strangers, *i.e.*, persons not free of the City, occupied less convenient chambers, whilst felons and other criminals of the worst kind were relegated to cells in the basement, where they were closely guarded and allowed no intercourse with other prisoners.

As the new prison was a sufficient stronghold of itself, the use of irons for prisoners was to be restricted to those confined for grave offences; but even in these cases the keeper of the prison might remove them, he receiving for so doing a reasonable fee known as *suette de prisone*.

The inmates were to be allowed free access to the chapel, on the understanding that they prayed devoutly for the souls of Richard Whityngton and Alice his wife.

Another great benefaction to the City was the conveyance of water from Paddington at the expense of William Estfeld, another wealthy and patriotic Alderman. He like Whityngton was also a member of the Mercers' Guild. Early in 1440 the Abbot of Westminster had granted to the citizens the right to erect a fountain head and appurtenances in a certain close called "Oxlese" in the Abbey's manor of Paddington, and thence to conduct water through pipes to the City under any ground

[1] A luxury in those days, as well as a considerable source of danger, being for the most part made of wood. It was not until fifteen years later (*circa* 1446) that the use of wooden, or "treen," chimneys was forbidden. *Infra*, p. 319.

belonging to the Abbey except within the manor of Hide.[1] The civic authorities appear to have contented themselves with conveying water, by virtue of this grant, from Paddington down to Tyburn and no further; and it was not until 1453 that the executors of William Estfeld (he having died in 1446 or early in 1447) undertook, with the proceeds of his estate, to continue the conduit so as to join a pipe already in process of being laid at the great conduit head at Marylebone,[2] whereby water was carried thence as far as Charing Cross. In order to continue the conduit from Charing Cross into the City, as the executors proposed to do, they had first to ask permission of the civic authorities. This was readily granted by an indenture dated 27 Oct., 1453, and recorded in the Letter-Book.[3] This document was doubtless seen by Stow, who gives an abstract of it in his 'Survey,' and adds that the water "was by them [*i.e.*, Estfeld's executors] brought thus into Fleetstreet to a standard, which they had made and finished, 1471."[4]

Yet another benefaction was the erection at Leadenhall of a granary for the storage of corn against times of scarcity, which so frequently occurred in the City, especially during the war with France. This, too, was the work of an Alderman, namely, Simon Eyre. The Letter-Book records a grant made in 1444 by the widow of John Carpenter[5] of a right of way through her hostel and garden[6] to the granary, a concession for public benefit which was acknowledged by the civic authorities granting her a lease of another garden in the immediate

[1] *Infra*, p. 233. Estfeld himself was appointed one of the superintendents of the work of the new conduit. *Infra*, p. 253.

[2] It may here be noted that in 1521 the reversion of the office of Common Hunt was granted to Richard Hobson on condition of his maintaining any conduit pipes and vaults for water to be conveyed to the City that might lie in his ground at "Marybourne." Letter-Book N, fo. 164 b.

[3] *Infra*, pp. 355–7.

[4] Stow, 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), ii. 40–1.

[5] He had resigned office in 1438, and had (probably) died in 1442.

[6] This hostel and garden had been let jointly to Carpenter and his wife in 1431 for a term of eighty years (not *seventy* years, as inadvertently stated in note *infra*, p. 294). *Vide infra*, pp. 119-20. In his devise of the property to his wife Carpenter describes

neighbourhood.[1] It also records a grant made in March, 1445 by the Rector and churchwardens of St. Dunstan in the East to the City of their tenement called the "Horsemill" in Gracechurch Street, with a view to enlarging the granary about to be erected, if not already in course of erection, by that noble and powerful (*nobilis et potens*) Alderman, Simon Eyre,[2] who was soon to be elected to the Mayoralty chair. In December, 1442, two of the City's masons and "viewers" had found it necessary to ask the Court of Aldermen to discharge them from serving on juries and inquests owing to the great work they were about to undertake at the Leadenhall for the public welfare.[3]

R. R. S.

The Guildhall, London,
April, 1911.

it as "my new tenement or hostel wherein I dwell." See Brewer's 'Life of Carpenter,' p. 134.

[1] *Infra*, p. 294.

[2] *Infra*, p. 313. Cf. Stow's 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 153.

[3] *Infra*, p. 276.

CALENDAR OF LETTER-BOOKS

OF THE

CITY OF LONDON.

LETTER-BOOK K.

Fly-leaf dors. *Peticio Serviencium Camer' pro parte (?) denar' in process' tempor' h'end.*

28 Oct., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], petition of Thomas Donyngton and other Serjeants of the Chamber to the Mayor and Aldermen touching the sharing of fees for processions.[1]

Fo. 1. *Eleccio Will' Estfeld et Rob'ti Tatersalle vic'.*

The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], in the presence of Robert Chichele, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, Richard Whityngtone, William Crowmere, (Nicholas) Wottone, William Sevenoke, William Cauntbrigge, John Reinwelle, John Per(neys), Robert (Whityngham?), Robert Widyngtone, John Coventre, John Wellys, John Blakden, John Botiller, (Nicholas) James, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned for the election of Sheriffs, William Estfeld, mercer, was elected one of the Sheriffs (by the Mayor), and (Robert) Tatersalle was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Bederenden, draper, was elected Chamberlain; ..... [illegible][2] John Trymnell, mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and John..... Aldermen, Thomas Dufhous, Henry Frowyk, John Brokle, and John [Bacon?], Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the Chamberlain and Wardens aforesaid.

[1] Almost illegible in parts.

[2] The name probably is Robert Colbroke, ironmonger, he being recorded as a Warden of London Bridge in the following year in conjunction with John Trymnell (*infra*, fo. 9).

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

The Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], after celebration of Mass according to the ordinance made during the Mayoralty of John Wodecok, in the presence of Robert Chichele, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Fray the Recorder, (Richard) Whityngtone, Thomas Knolles, William Waldern, William Crowmer, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas (Wottone), William Sevenok, William Cauntbrigge, John Reinwelle, John Perneys, Robert (Whityngham ?), John Michell, Ralph Bartone, Simon Seman, John Wellys, John Coventre, Robert (Widyngtone ?), John Botiller, Nicholas James, and Robert Tatersalle, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, William Walderne was elected Mayor.

Afterwards, viz. on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c. [*sic*],[1] before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 1 b. The provision made by William Walderne, the Mayor, and Aldermen for the reception of the corpse of the most illustrious and victorious Prince, the Lord Henry V., late King of England, &c., lately deceased at "Vyncent Boys,"[2] in France, to be buried at Westminster, viz., that after the streets of the City and Borough of Suthwerk have been cleansed the Mayor, Sheriffs, Recorder, Aldermen, and officers, and the more sufficient persons of the whole City shall proceed on foot as far as St. George's Bar, clothed in black vestments, together with 300 torches borne by 300 persons clothed in white gowns and hoods, and there reverently salute the corpse, following it the first day as far as St. Paul's Church, where the funeral obsequies take place, and the second day to Westminster. It is likewise provided

[1] From the year 1418 and onwards the new Mayor, on his election, is not specifically recorded as having been *sworn* at the Exchequer, although as a matter of fact he was so sworn.

[2] He had died at Bois de Vincennes on the 31st August, 1422.

that throughout the street, from the posts or "stulps"[1] at the end of the Bridge towards Suthwerk as far as the corner of the cross-roads at Estchepe, shall stand on either side men of the Wards of Bridge, Billingsgate, and.....[illegible], with lighted torches, and that the chaplains of the churches and chapels within the said Wards shall stand at the doors of the churches, habited in their richest vestments, and bearing in their hands censers of gold and silver, whilst they solemnly chant the *venite*, and incense the corpse as it passes. The like shall be done by men of the Wards of.....[illegible], Langbourne, Algate, Portsoken, and Lymstrete, from the corner of the said cross-roads at Estchepe up to Cornhill; and by the Wards of Cornhill, Bradstrete, Walbroke, and Vintry, from the corner of.....[illegible] up to "lestokkes"; and by the Wards of Colmanstrete, Bassieshawe, Bredstret, and Baynardescastel, from "lestokkes" up to the Great Conduit; and by the Wards of Chepe, Cordewanerstrete, Creplegate, and Aldrichegate from the Great Conduit to the West Gate of St. Paul's, &c. These are the names of the Misteries which provided the torches, the remains of which were returned to them, &c.:—

Mercers, 12 torches; Grocers, 12; Drapers, 12; Pelters, 12; Vintners, 12; Fishmongers, 12; Tailors, 12; Ironmongers, 8; Goldsmiths, 8; Saddlers, 8; Brewers, 8; Butchers, 8; Cordwainers, 8; Waxchandlers, 6; Chandlers, 6; Flecchers and Bowyers, 6; Pewterers, 6; Dyers, 6; Armourers, 6; Shearmen, 4; Salters, 4; Girdlers, 4; Haberdashers, 4; Curriers (?), 4; Barbers, 4; Glovers, 4; Founders, 4; "Brasyers," 3; Hatters, 2; Painters, 3; Fullers, 3.

Total, 211 torches.

And note that the Chamberlain, at the cost of the Commonalty, gave to each torch-bearer a gown and hood of blanket,[2] &c.

Delib'ac' Rog'i Denford fingentis se captorem Regis.

The eve of All Saints [1 Nov.], Roger Denford, of Potenhethe,[3] who had been arrested for pretending to be one of the King's takers (*captor domini Regis*),[4] was released from

[1] Cf. Riley's 'Memorials,' p. xv. note.

[2] *De blanqueto*, a white material.

[3] Putney.

[4] It is not clear whether *captor* here means *captor vinorum*, *i.e.*, taker of the King's wine, or refers generally

prison, inasmuch as no one appeared in evidence against him, and as a mark of respect for the said Feast, the said Roger having first pledged his oath for good behaviour.[1]

Fo. 2. *L'ra dñi Bed' missa Maiori Aldr' et co'itati*

Letter from the Duke of Bedford to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty, notifying them that, on account of the decease of the late King, the government of the realm, by the laws, ancient usage, and custom of the said realm, had fallen to him, as being the late King's eldest brother. Dated at Rouen, 26 Oct. [A.D. 1422].[2]

L'ra trepositi m'cator' Scabin' et inhabitancium Paris' directa Maiori et civib' London.

Letter from the Provost of merchants, Echevins, and burgesses, residing in Paris, to the Mayor, burgesses, and inhabitants of the City of London, touching the death of Henry [V.], Regent of France, asking them to use their influence with the powers that be, for the protection of France against her enemies, and assuring them of the allegiance of the writers to Henry [VI.], who was King both of France and England. Written at "Parys." [No date.][3]

Fo. 2 b. *Custodia Joh'is et Lucie pueror' Thome Hunte.*

14 Nov., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], the guardianship of John and Lucy, children of Thomas Hunte, late "fruyterer," together with their property, committed by William Walderne, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Marion their mother. Sureties, viz., William Rustone, attorney, &c., and Thomas Warwyk, "wodemonger."

Custodia corporis Tho'e filii Ric'i Merlawe.

10 Dec., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], the guardianship of Thomas, son of Richard Merlawe, late "irmonger," and one of the Aldermen of the City, committed by William Walderne, the

to purveyance, the practice of which for the King's benefit became in course of time so intolerable that in 1362 the hated name of purveyor was ordered by statute to be changed to that of "catour" or buyer (*achatour*). See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 294.

[1] A similar entry is recorded *infra*, fo. 3.

[2] Set out in Sharpe's London and the Kingdom,' vol. iii. pp. 367–8. Cf. Jules Delpit, 'Collection Générale des Documents Français qui se trouvent en Angleterre' (pp. 232–3). The Duke had accompanied the late King's corpse on its way home as far as Rouen, where it was transferred to the custody of Thomas Beaufort, Duke of Exeter. The Parliament which met on the 9th Nov. resolved, after some hesitation, to appoint Bedford Protector as soon as he returned from France. In the meantime Gloucester, his younger brother, was to act for him. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 174, 175; Rymer, x. 261; Walsingham, ii. 346.

[3] Set out by Delpit, *op. cit.*, pp. 233-234.

Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, to Robert Chichele, grocer, and Agnes his wife, the orphan's mother.[1] Sureties, viz., William Michel and Thomas Catworth, grocer.

3 Dec., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], came John, son of John Frensshe, late goldsmith, before the Mayor and Aldermen, and received from John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, a sum of money accruing to him during his minority.

Admissio et sacr'm Will'i Horn in s'vientem ad canell'.

Wednesday, 11 Nov., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], William Horn admitted and sworn a Serjeant of the City for cleansing of streets, lanes, the banks of the Thames, &c.

De venella vocat' Grenewichelane deobturanda.

12 Dec., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], an ordinance made by the Mayor and Aldermen that the lane called "Grenewich lane," which had been unlawfully obstructed[2] for eight years by inhabitants of the Ward of Dowgate, as appears by records of this court, *temp.* Thomas Fauconer, shall be reopened.

Fo. 3.

Consi'le mandatum miss' fuit cuil't Aldermanno pro levacione medietat' unius xv^e^.

Precept to the Aldermen to cause a sum amounting to half a fifteenth to be levied in their several Wards on all inhabitants (including ecclesiastics for lands and tenements purchased since the twentieth year of King Edward I.[3]), and to bring the money to the Guildhall by a certain day. Written under the Mayoralty Seal, 12 Oct. [A.D. 1422].

Consi'le mandatum miss' fuit cuil't Aldermanno.

Precept to the Aldermen to hold Wardmotes in their several Wards and make return to the Mayor's General Court to be held on Monday after the Feast of Epiphany [6 Jan.], and further, to keep an armed watch at Christmas time, appoint a "Rakier" for each Ward for keeping the streets clean, and

[1] The guardianship of the body of the orphan was committed to his mother *during minority*, whilst his property was only committed to her for a term of five years, to be afterwards brought into court. In other cases of orphanage recorded in the Letter-Book the guardianship of the bodies as well as the goods of the orphans is frequently granted for a prescribed term, irrespective of the orphans still remaining under age.

[2] In 1343 Greenwich Lane had been declared to be a public lane with free passage. 'Liber Cust.,' ii. 449.

[3] In that year (A.D. 1291) the stringent valuation known as the Taxation of Pope Nicolas had been renewed. Rymer, 'Fœdera,' i. 747; Stubbs, 'Const. Hist.,' ii. 119, 124.

see that a light be kept burning before each house, &c. Written under the seal of the Mayoralty, 12 Dec. [A.D. 1422].

Delib'acio Rogeri Denford extra prisonam.

The eve of All Saints [1 Nov.], Roger Denford of "Potenethe" discharged from prison, to which he had been committed for pretending to be one of the King's takers.[1]

Exon'acio Hugonis Hachon' ab assisis.

15 Jan., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], Hugh Hachoun of Berkyng, co. Essex, skinner, discharged by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., except on urgent occasions, owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 3 b.

Br'e d'ni Regis ad certiorari sup' ordinacione facta pro retibus vocatis Triinkes.

Writ of certiorari touching the regulations of assize of nets called "Trynkes" in the Thames and the season for taking lamprons.[2] Witness the King at Westminster, 10 Dec., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422].

Returnum sup' br'i predicto quo ad Trinkas.

Return made to the above writ to the effect that there is a certain net called "Tryinke" for catching fish in the Thames between the Feast of St. James, Ap. [25 July], and the Annunciation B. Mary [25 March], which ought to be, according to the assize and custom of the City, of the breadth of two inches in each mesh in the first half (*in medietate anteriori*), and one and a half inches and not less in each mesh in the hinder half (*in medietate posteriori*).[3]

It' de eodem return' cap-c'oem lampronum [sic].

Lamprons ought by custom to be taken between the Feast of St. Michael [29 Sept.] and Easter Day, or a little before or after the said Feasts, according as it may seem seasonable and advantageous to the Mayor or Warden of the City for the time being.[4]

Ordinacio q'd recia voc' Trinkes non figantur nec stent set tractentur.

Recital of an ordinance[5] having been made on the 14th Nov., 9 Henry V. [A.D. 1421], by William Cauntbrigge, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty forbidding the fixing of "Tryinkes" in the river as being too destructive of fish, but allowing the inhabitants of Wolwich, Berkyng, and Erhithe, and all other fishermen, to use such nets at seasonable times, pro-

[1] The same entry is recorded *supra*, fo. 1 b.

[2] Lamperns or river-lampreys (Riley).

[3] Cf. 'Liber Cust.,' i. 117; 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' pp. 185, 187–8.

[4] Cf. "E qe hom ne preigne nul lamproun apres la Pasche, avaunt quil soit devers la Seint Michel, qe lour sesoun viegne." Ordinance *circa* A.D. 1295. 'Lib. Cust.,' i. 117; 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' pp. 185, 186.

[5] Not apparently recorded in Letter-Book I.

vided they be of reasonable assize and be not fixed in any one place, but be drawn like other nets through the water as of old accustomed.[1]

Exon'ac' Cur' de den' p'tin' Will'o fil' Ric'i Wodecok Salter.

25 Feb., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], came William, son of Richard Wodecok, late salter, and received from John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, a sum of money in full satisfaction of his patrimony.

Carbon' Joh' Serle colyer jam primo forisfact'.

Saturday, 21 Nov., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], John Serle of Croydon, "colyere," arrested with three sacks of coal which were deficient in measure, and because it was his first conviction the coal was confiscated, and he was committed to prison until he paid the fine, &c.

Fo. 4.
Will'mus Edrich exon'at' ab assisis.

7 Feb., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], William Edrych, brewer, discharged by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age, &c.

Joh'es Lagage exon'at' ab assisis.

16 Jan., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], John Lagage, goldsmith, similarly discharged for like cause.

Commissio pro delib'acione Gaole de Newgate.

Letters patent appointing William Walderne, the Mayor,[2] William Hankeford, William Babyngtone, Robert Hulle, Robert Tirwhit, Roger Hortone, William Cheyne, John Cokayn, John Martyn, John Prestone, and John Fray, or any ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, or two (the Mayor being one), to be justices for gaol-delivery of Newgate. Witness the King at Westminster, 14 Jan., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3].

Transmutacio Joh'is Elsy a mistera de Hornyers in misteram de Bruers.

27 Feb., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], came John, son of Thomas Elsey, of "Iskham,"[3] co. Kent, before William Walderne, the Mayor, and Aldermen, and showed that whereas he had been admitted to the freedom of the City in the Mistery of "Hornyers" *temp.* Robert Merlawe, Mayor, and John Proffyt,

[1] The term "treink" etymologically means a draw or drag-net (Fr. *treîner*). A statute was passed in the Parliament of 1423 (Stat. 2 Hen. VI. cap. 15) forbidding the fixing of such nets to posts, boats, or anchors lest spawn or fry should continue to be destroyed.

[2] The name of the Mayor continues to be placed at the head of the list of commissioners appointed for gaol-delivery at the present day.

[3] Probably Ickham, near Canterbury.

Chamberlain, viz., on the 23rd June, 11 Henry IV. [A.D. 1410], he had long used, and was now using, the Mistery of "Bruers," as good men of the latter Mistery testified; he therefore prayed to be admitted to the freedom in that Mistery. His prayer granted.

14 Nov., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422], Nicholas John de Lucha, "brocour," committed to prison by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, for having charged the scrutineers appointed for surveying and assaying wines with unfairness to him and his wines, and for alleging that they would have been amenable to a bribe.

Fo. 4 b. *Exon'acio Will'i Spark cissoris ab assisis.*

2 March, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], William Spark, tailor, discharged by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Br'e d'ni Regis de admittendo Ric'm Alfeld in coronatorem Civitatis London' etc.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to admit Richard Alfeld as deputy-coroner to Thomas "Chaucier,"[1] the King's Chief Butler, to whom the office of Coroner appertains, but who has no leisure to execute its duties. Witness the King at Westminster, 11 Dec., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422].

Exon'acio Ric'i atte Pippe flecher ab assisis.

17 March, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], Richard atte Pyppe, "flecher," discharged by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Joh'is Canoun ab assisis.

12 March, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], John Canoun, brewer, similarly discharged for like cause.

Exon'acio Joh'is Westyerd vinetar' ab assisis.

9 March, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422-3], John Westyerd, vintner, similarly discharged for like cause.

Novum opus Guyhalde etc.

Saturday the eve of Palm Sunday [28 March], 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], ordinance by William Walderne, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, that all fines and fees for incoming and outgoing of apprentices, male and female, as well as fines and fees for enrolment of deeds, wills, and writings under the seal of the Mayoralty, fines and amercements of brewers, hucksters, hostelers, and victuallers infringing ordi-

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 21n.

nances, be continued and levied to the use of the Guildhall up to Michaelmas next, &c.[1]

Afterwards, viz. on Monday, 26 Sept., the year aforesaid, the time was extended to Christmas next, &c.

15 April, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], came David Turbelvyle of co. Glouc., "brouderer," before William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and showed that whereas he had been admitted to the freedom of the City in the Mistery of "Brouderers" *temp.* Drew Barentyn, Mayor, and John Proffyt, Chamberlain, viz., on the 19th July, 10 Henry IV. [A.D. 1409], he had long used, and was now using, the Mistery of "Vinters." He prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted to the freedom in the latter mistery. His prayer granted at the instance of Geoffrey Dallyng, John Crouchier, William Reynold, John Neve, William Scardeborgh, and Guy Sholdham, and others of the Mistery of "Vynters." Fo. 5.

Transmutacio David Turbelvyle a mistera de Brouderers in misteram de Vynters.

19 May, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], the guardianship of John and Alice, children of Simon Herward, late mercer, together with their patrimony, committed by William Walderne, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain (with the assent of John Talbot, mercer, to whom the guardianship had been assigned by the aforesaid Simon), to John Admond, mercer, who had married Johanna, widow of the said Simon. Sureties, viz., John Fauntleroy and John Pydmell, mercers. *Custodia corporum Joh'is et Alicie puer' Simonis Herward.*

Afterwards, viz., on the 19th August, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], it was adjudged by the Mayor and Aldermen that the money belonging to the above Alice, who had died under the age of twenty-one years (as proved by inquest) on the 17th Sept., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], should be delivered to her surviving brother John.

15 June, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], John Wynne, draper, discharged by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age, &c. *Exon'acio Joh'is Wynne ab assisis juratis etc.*

[1] Cf. ordinance of 1425. *Infra*, fo. 31 b.

Exon'acio Ric'i Russell cissoris ab assisis etc.

16 July, the same year, Richard Russell, tailor, similarly discharged for like cause.

Fo. 5 b.

Ordinacio carnificum.

7 May, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], ordinances submitted by the Masters and good men of the Mistery of Butchers to the Mayor and Aldermen for governing the mistery, and approved. Among the ordinances are the following, viz.:—

(*a*) That no butcher keep his shop open, or expose meat for sale, after 10 o'clock in the morning on any Sunday, under penalty of 40*d*.

(*b*) That no bull be killed for sale before it has been hunted and baited (*nisi taurus ille prius fugatur et baytetur*).

(*c*) That no butcher sell fragments of meat on Saturday that have been left over from the previous Thursday.

(*d*) That no butcher find fault with a stranger for demanding pence[1] for victuals sold to him.

Ordinacio pistor'.

8 May, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], petition to the Mayor and Aldermen by Thomas Grymmesby, Thomas Twygge, John atte Water, William Lardener, John Page, and John Southfolk, Masters and Governors, and all the good folk of the Mistery of Bakers, that an ordinance may be made forbidding any baker to bake bread for sale on Sunday except in case of great necessity or by special order from the Crown. Their petition granted.

Fo. 6.

Exon'acio Joh'is Hese cissoris ab assisis.

28 July, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], John Hese, tailor, discharged by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Ric'i Isaak sellarii ab assisis.

3 Aug., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], Richard Isaak, saddler, similarly discharged for like cause.

Exon'acio Joh'is Belamy ab assisis.

25 Sept., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], John Belamy de Canterbury similarly discharged for like cause.

Ordinacio mistere "Flechers."

8 May, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], petition to the Mayor and Aldermen by the Wardens and good folk of the Mistery of "Flecchers" for an ordinance to be made forbidding any one

[1] Probably meaning asking for his correct change.

of the Mistery to keep open shop on Sundays, or any Festival having a double vigil (*dont la veigle est jemynee*).[1] Their prayer granted.

10 May, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], came John Admond and brought into Court certain sums of money belonging to John and Alice, children of Simon Herward. Also there came William Maltby, who had been guardian of Margaret, another daughter of the said Simon, and brought her property into Court (she having died under age), to be divided between the aforesaid John and Alice.

15 May, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], petition presented by Master Gilbert Kymer, Doctor of "Medicyns" and Rector of "Medicyns" in the City of London,[2] Master John Suntbreshete, "Comensour" in "Medicyns," and Master Thomas Southwell, "Bachiler" in "Medicyns," being the two Surveyors of the Faculty of Physic in the said City, together with Thomas Morstede[3] and John Harowe, the two Masters of the Craft of Surgery, and all other surgeons, to the Mayor and Aldermen, for authority to found a joint College for the better education and control of physicians and surgeons practising in the City and its liberties. The petition approved, and its articles sanctioned.[4]

Fos. 6 b-7 b.

The ordenaunce and Articles of Phisicions within þe Cite of London and Surgeons of þe same.

[1] As, for instance, the *Vigilia vigiliæ Nativitatis*, or the Eve of the Eve of the Nativity, *i.e.*, the day before Christmas Eve. Cf. *Prævigilia*, Hampson, 'Medii Ævi Kalendarium,' Glossary.

[2] Physician to Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, on whose recommendation he was elected in 1446 Chancellor of the University of Oxford for the second time, the Duke having been a great benefactor to the University Library. Kymer subsequently took holy orders, and in 1449 was appointed Dean of Salisbury. (D'Arcy Power, 'Memorials of the Craft of Surgery,' p. 59.)

[3] According to Stow ('Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 315) Thomas Morstede was surgeon to Kings Henry IV., V., and VI., and was instrumental in getting the Barber-Surgeons incorporated. At the same time he gives the date of Morstede's death as 1450, whereas the Barber-Surgeons do not appear to have obtained a charter of incorporation before 1462. Stow also states (i. 262) that he was one of the Sheriffs of London in 1436, but the Thomas Morstede who was elected one of the Sheriffs that year is recorded as being of the fraternity of the Mistery of Fishmongers (*infra*, fo. 162 b).

[4] The petition is set out (transcribed —not without some misreadings— from the Letter-Book) by D'Arcy Power, *op. cit.*, Appendix B.

Fo. 8.

Concessio cujusdam domus situat' infra Aldrichgate Rad'o Vernoun s'vient' Maioris ad clavam etc.

20 July, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], grant by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to Ralph Vernoun, one of the Mayor's Serjeants, of a house or mansion situate near Aldrichegate, lately held by Alexander Boner, late Serjeant-at-mace of the City.

Br'e d'ni Regis pro parliamento.

Writ to the Sheriffs for the election at the next Husting of four citizens to attend a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the 20th Oct. next; and to make a return of the names of those so elected in an indenture between the said Sheriffs and those present at the election, according to the statute thereon provided.[1] No Sheriff to be returned. Witness the King at Westminster, 1 Sept., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423].

Pursuant to the above writ there were elected at the Husting for Common Pleas, held on Monday before the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], Thomas Fauconer and John Wellys' Aldermen, Henry Frowyk, mercer, and Thomas Boteler, fishmonger.

Exon'acio Joh'is Welles merceri ab assisis.

25 Oct., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], John Welles, mercer, discharged by William Walderne, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 8 b.

Custodia Katerine filie Will'i Est sergeaunt.

15 April, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], the guardianship of Katherine, daughter of William Est,[2] late citizen and "Sergeant" of London, together with her property, committed by William Waldern, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Alice her mother. Sureties, viz., John St. John, "lynge armorer," Ralph Spayne, William Bullok, "tapicer," and John Gratele, tailor.

Afterwards, viz., on the 9th Aug., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], came the above Katherine, being of full age, and received her property.

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 57n.

[2] His will, dated 6 Sept., 1421, was proved and enrolled in the Husting in May, 1422. 'Cal. of Wills, Court of Hust.,' ii. 431. He was sometime Serjeant to the Mayor for the time being, and in 1399 had been appointed Bailiff of Southwark. 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 447, 451.

10 Aug., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], William Sevenoke, Robert Colbroke, and other parishioners of the church of St. Dunstan "Est," delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, 100 marks in trust for John and Nicholas, sons of Thomas Petwardyn, late fishmonger (*piscenarii*).

Custodia Joh'is filie Tho'e Petwardyn nup' civis et Groceri [sic] *London'.*

Afterwards, viz., on the 14th Oct., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], the guardianship of the above John, together with the sum of 50 marks, was committed to John Maldone, grocer. Sureties, viz., Stephen Broun, John Olyve, John Asshwelle, and Ralph Hogman, grocers.

Concessio facta Joh'i Haukeslowe h'end' feod' et vestitum de Camera.

14 April, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], in a congregation of William Crowmere, Mayor, William Walderne, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas Wottone, William Sevenok, Henry Bartone, William Cauntbrigge, John Reynwelle, John Michell, John Gedney, Ralph Bartone, Robert "Tatersale," Robert Widyngtone, John Wellys, John Coventre, Simon Seman, Richard Gosselyn, and John Bythewater, Aldermen, Nicholas Jamys and Thomas Wandesford, the Sheriffs, it was agreed by the said Aldermen and Sheriffs that John Haukeslowe, valet of William Talworth, Bailiff of the Thames, should receive yearly, during good behaviour, the fee and clothing of the Chamber, as other valets were accustomed to have.

Fo. 9.

Eleccio Thome Wandesford et Nich'i James vic' London'.

Tuesday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], in the presence of William Walderne, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, Robert Chichele, William Crowmer, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Sevenok, William Cauntbrigge, John Coventre, John Reynwell, Ralph Bartone, Robert "Tatersalle," Robert Widyngtone, John Welles, Simon Seman, Richard Gosselyn, and William Estfeld, Aldermen, and very many Commoners, summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Thomas Wandesford, mercer, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Nicholas James, "irmonger," was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Bederenden, draper, was elected Chamberlain of the City; Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," and John Trymnell, mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge;

and John Coventre and John Welles, Aldermen, Henry Frowyk, mercer, John Brokle, draper, John Bacon, grocer, and Thomas Boteler, fishmonger, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

On the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.] the above Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the same Feast were presented and admitted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Eleccio Will'mi Crowmer in Maiorem.

Wednesday the Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], in the presence of William Walderne, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Fray, the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, Robert Chichele, William Crowmer, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Sevenok, William Cauntbrig, John Michell, John Reinwell, John Perneys, Robert Whityngham, John Coventre, Robert Tatersall, Ralph Bartone, John Welles, Simon Seman, Robert Widyngtone, John Bythewater, Nicholas James, Richard Gosselyn, and William Estfeld, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty, summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, William Crowmer was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 9 b.

Masters of Misteries sworn.

✝ *Cordewaners:* Hugh Crispe, Richard Bemond, Richard Hariot, John Horald, sworn 28 June, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423].

Lorimers: Richard Fuller, William Aleyn, William atte Noven, sworn 2 July, the same year.

Coupers: John Hoke, William Boterfeld, sworn 2 July, the same year.

Sporiers: John Parker, Richard Fyge, sworn 13 July, the same year.

Physicians: Master Gilbert Kymer sworn Rector of the Faculty. [No date.]

Surgeons: Thomas Morestede, John Harwe, sworn Surveyors of Surgery, 28 May, the same year.

Haberdasshers: John Olyver, John Langle, Richard Plate, Richard Segrym', sworn 17 July, the same year.

Limners and *Text-writers:* Thomas Marleburgh, Thomas Fysshe, sworn 24 July, the same year.

Shermen: John Bret, Robert Capone, William Gylam, sworn 5 Aug., the same year.

Gyrdelers: Richard Kenarton, John Colyon, John Ley, sworn 23 Aug., the same year.

Botellers: William Shene, Robert Colegere.

Fo. 10.

Br'e d'ni Regis pro solucione debitor' Regis H. iiij^ti Avi sui.

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all creditors of King Henry IV. who had not been repaid a moiety of the money due to them, to send in their claims to John Pelham, Knt., and John Leventhorp, Esq., two of the said King's executors, by Monday after the Feast of Nativity of St. John Baptist [24 June] next, at the Priory of St. Mary de Suthwerk. Witness the King at Westminster, 5 June, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].[1]

Proclamacio q'd omnes soldarii se trahant ad portum de Wynchelse.

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all soldiers in the King's service for securing the town and castle of Crotey[2] to be at the port of Wynchelse by Wednesday next. Witness the King at Westminster, 8 Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4].

Br'e d'ni Regis de proclamacione pro medietate unius decime et xv^e levand'.

Writ to the Sheriffs to imprison those who refuse to contribute their assessment to the subsidy granted in the last Parliament of the late King.[3] Witness the King at Westminster, 26 Nov., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422].

Fo. 10 b.

Proclamacio pro bona gubernacione civitatis.

Proclamation to be made forbidding any vintner, taverner, brewer, hosteler, huckster, "kiewe" or piebaker to keep his house open after 9 o'clock at night during the sitting of Parliament, and prescribing the price to be charged for hay, "litter" and oats, &c.

[1] Cf. *infra*, fo. 18.

[2] Crotoy, in Picardy. Terms had been arranged for the surrender of the town to the English in October, 1423, but it was not actually handed over until the following March (Monstrelet, 'Chron.,' Johnes' trans., i. 502-4, 506).

[3] Met 1 Dec., 1421. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 150, 151.

Proclamacio facta sup' Thomam Corbet positum sup' collistrigium.

Proclamation of the cause why Thomas Corbet stood on the pillory, viz., for having forged a deed purporting to be a conveyance by Richard Pavy, esquire, and Johanna, sometime his wife, and now the wife of John Kent, of a certain tenement for the purpose of ousting Henry Julyon, "irmonger," to whom the said tenement had been conveyed by the said Richard and Johanna by deed. [No date.]

Proclamacio facta pro vendicione vini.

Proclamation forbidding the sale of wine, white or red, of Rochelle or of Gascony for more than 6*d.* a gallon, and of sweet wine for more than 12*d.*

Proclamacio facta q'd omnes in vadiis retenti se trahant versus Crotey.

Writ for proclamation to be made for all knights, esquires, valets, as well as masters and mariners of vessels bound for foreign service to Crotey to make haste thither. Witness the King at Westminster, 22 Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4].

Proclamacio facta pro Marcellino de Flisco.

Writs to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all persons having any claim against Marcellin de Flisco of "Janua," a prisoner in the hands of John Stourtone, senior, who had captured him in the county of Somerset, after he had escaped from the Tower (to which he had been committed together with Thomas Payn, late clerk to John Oldcastell, Knt., for divers rebellions and insurrections), to send in such claims within six months to the King's Council, and speedy justice should be done, and if no claims be sent in within that time the said Marcellin would be adjudged to be John Stourtone's own prisoner. Witness the King at Westminster, 3 Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4].

Fo. 11.

Proclamation by the Mayor and Aldermen forbidding the forestalling of merchandise and victuals in Southwark, St. John's Street, and other places near the City. [No date.]

Proclamacio facta sup' Joh'am Cogenho posit' sup' collistrigium.

"For so mochel as Jhonet Cogenho þat here stont is openly convict and atteint be fore þe Meir and Aldermen of þys Cite þat she with a nothir of hir covine whiche is nat yet taken þe xij day of Decembir last passed forged feynyd and counterfeted a fals obligac'on conteynyng þat Henry Bartone citezein and skynner of London shuld have be bounde to Herry Chatertone and John Tetenale in C*li* to paye at Witsonetyd next comyng Therfore and foras mochel as þe seid Jhonet is knowen and be

co'e voyse and fame publisshed for a co'e desceyver and begiler of þe people it is awarded by þe seid Mair and Aldermen þat þe same Jhonet in chastisement of oþyr þat might cacche enboldissement in exercise of suche falsnesse yef she skaped unponisshed shal stond þys day an hour in þis open place to be seyn and knowen with þe seid false obligac'on a bowte her nekke and þe remenaunt of þe punisshement þat she hath deserved to be for yeve at reverence of womanhod and instance of þe same Henr' Bartone." [No date.]

Fo. 11 b.

Proclamacio facta sup' Aliciam Boston' posit' sup' collistrigium.

"Alsoun" Bostone condemned to stand in the pillory three market days for an hour each day, being brought thither from prison with "pypys" or other "opyn minstralsy," for having let to hire for immoral purposes her innocent young apprentice.

Inquisicio capta pro falso facto contra-facto.

Tuesday, 16 Nov., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], inquisition taken at the Guildhall before William Crowmere, the Mayor, and Aldermen, when it was found that on the 28th July, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], John Russell of Cestone, co. Leic., otherwise called "John Russell sumtyme clerk convyct," Thomas Corbet, Sir John Canesby, clerk, otherwise called "Sir John the Morowemasse prest"[1] of St. Bride's, Richard Pery, skinner, and Tidman Harper, otherwise called "John Brakley," scrivener, conspired to forge a deed bearing a seal of the arms of Richard Pavy (cunningly removed from an old deed), and purporting to be a conveyance of a certain tenement by the said Richard and Johanna his wife (afterwards wife of John Kent) to John Passemere, serjeant-at-arms, one of the surviving friends of the said John Kent, and to Thomas Kighley and John Lane of Canterbury, since deceased. It was further found that on the 6th Oct., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], the said Sir John Canesby brought the counterfeit deed to the house of Walter Vicory, tailor, where the said John Kent, Johanna his wife, and others were supping, and, pretending that he had obtained it from Simon Hoke, clerk, in discharge of a debt, caused it to be publicly read by Master Gilbert Kymer, Doctor of medicine[2] (who was unaware

[1] The priest who says Mass on the day following a Feast.

[2] *In medicinis.* Cf. *supra*, p. 11, note.

of the deception), and to be delivered to John "Pasmere" for the purpose of challenging the title of William Caumbrigge, grocer, to the said tenement, which had sometime been conveyed by the said Richard Pavy and Johanna his wife to a certain Henry Julyan and his heirs,[1] such conveyance being enrolled in the Husting on Monday before the Feast of Conversion of St. Paul [25 Jan.], 4 Henry IV. [A.D. 1402–3].[2]

Fo. 12. *Br'e d'ni Regis pro conservacione pacis.*

Writ to the Sheriffs for the preservation of the peace in the City and suburbs. Witness the King at Westminster, 1 Oct., 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422].

Br'e d'ni Regis de proclamacione q'd null' tencat Escambium auri vel argenti quam Cambitor' d'ni Regis.

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for the due observance of the statute made in Parliament, anno 25 Edward III. [A.D. 1351-2],[3] forbidding any one to keep a public Exchange or to make a profit out of the exchange of money. Witness John, Duke of Bedford, Warden of England,[4] at Westminster, 16 Jan., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1].

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to make proclamation for all who have grievances against any officer of the King's Mint in the Tower of London, or of his Exchange in the City of London, to lay the same before the King's Council, and speedy justice shall be done. Witness John, Duke of Bedford, Warden of England, at Westminster, 17 Jan., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1].

Fo. 12 b. *Ordinacio de Copersmythes.*

2 Dec., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], came the Masters and the good folk of the Mistery of Copersmythes before William Crowmere, the Mayor, and Aldermen, and prayed that certain articles, as set out, for the better government of their Mistery might be approved and enrolled. Their prayer granted.

Fo. 13. *Br'e d'ni Regis pro deliv'acione Gaole de Neugate.*

Letters patent appointing William Crowemere, the Mayor, William Hankford, William Babyngtone, John Juyn,[5] Robert Trewhit, John Cokayn, William Cheyne, John Martyn, John Prestone, John Hals, and John Fray, or any ten, nine, eight,

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 16.

[2] Cf. *infra*, pp. 20–22.

[3] Stat. 25 Edw. III. cap. xii.

[4] That Bedford should be recorded here as *Custos* is strange, seeing that he was at the time in France, whither the young King had also gone for his coronation.

[5] Or "Ivyn": Justice of Common Pleas; afterwards Chief Justice of Common Pleas and of King's Bench.

seven, six, five, four, three, or two (the Mayor being one), to be justices for gaol-delivery of Neugate. Witness the King at Westminster, 3 Nov., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423].

4 Oct., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], Henry Gylot, tailor, discharged by William Crowmer, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Henrici Gilot civis et Cissoris London' ab assisis.

Letters patent granting permission to John Coventre, John Carpenter, John White, and William Grove, executors of the will of Richard Whityngtone, late mercer, to pull down the gaol and gate of Neugate, and erect another gaol with the property of the said Richard, and in the meantime to remove all prisoners to some convenient place.[1] Witness the King at Westminster, 12 May, 1 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423].

Licencia d'ni Regis concessa exec' Ric'i Whityngtone ad prosternend' Gaolam de Neugate et illud de novo reedificand'.

7 Dec., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], William Culvere, chandler, discharged by William Crowmer, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Will'i Culver ab assisis.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to admit Adam May as deputy to Thomas Chaucer, the King's Chief Butler and *ex officio* Coroner of the City. Witness the King at Westminster, 25 Dec., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423].

Br'e d'ni Regis de admittend' Adam May in Coronatorem Civitatis etc.

15 Dec., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], Salamon Oxney, goldsmith, discharged by William Crowmer, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to infirmities of age.

Fo. 13 b.

Exon'acio Salamonis Oxney ab assisis.

Precept under the Mayoralty seal to the several Aldermen to hold their Wardmotes, and report such matters as they are themselves unable to correct to the Mayor's General Court to be held on Monday after the Epiphany [6 Jan.]; and further, to elect members to the Common Council[2] and take the necessary steps for preserving the peace, the prevention of fire, &c. Dated 12 Dec. [A.D. 1423].

Consi'les bille misse fuer' cuil't Aldermanno.

[1] They were transferred to the Sheriffs' Compters, *infra*, fo. 37.

[2] As already noted in 'Calendar Letter-Book I' (p. 90n.), a clause to this effect first appears in the general precept issued in December of each year in 1410, and is repeated in 1411, but does not again occur until 1423.

Certific'o facta Will'mo Cauntbrige per Ric'm Pery de quodam falso scripto facto per Joh'em Kent Joh' Russell Thomam Corbet et quendam capell'm voc' Joh' Cannesby.

2 Oct., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], William Cauntbrigge informed William Walderne, the Mayor, and Aldermen that Richard Pery, servant of John Kent, had been taken into custody and excommunicated in the Court of the Archdeacon of Westminster for conspiring with John Russell and others to oust the said William Cauntbrigge from a certain tenement called "le Culverkey," near Billingsgate, by a forged deed. The said William therefore prayed that the said Richard, before he regained his freedom, might be examined on oath as to the matter, so as to avoid future annoyance. Thereupon the said Richard declared on oath that at various times after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula [1 Aug.] last past he was present when John Kent, John Russell, Thomas Corbet, and Sir John "le Morowemasse-preste" of St. Bride's (whose other name he knows not), conspired, at a tavern called "le Petres Key" near Oldefisshstrete, and another hostel called "Sarsynshede" in Fletestrete, and elsewhere, and caused him to forge a deed to prove that Richard Pavy and Johanna his wife (now the wife of the said John Kent) had granted the above tenement called "le Culverkey" to [John] Pasmere, [Thomas] Kighley, and [John] Lane of Canterbury (whose proper names the deponent cannot recall to mind[1]), at a date prior to that of their conveyance of the same tenement to Henry Julyan, which conveyance was enrolled in the Guildhall *circa* 4 Henry IV.; and that the said forged deed bore the seal of the said Richard taken from an old deed, and was endorsed as if duly enrolled in the King's Bench. Furthermore, that the said forged deed was brought to the house of [Walter] Vicory, "taillour," near Oldefisshstrete, where the said John Kent and others were supping, by the same Sir John [Canesby], who pretended that he had obtained it from Simon Hoke, a deceased clerk, in discharge of a debt, and caused it to be publicly read by Master Gilbert Kymer, Doctor of medicine.

Fo. 14. Afterwards, viz., on the 4th Oct., the said Sir John le Morowemassepreste, otherwise called Sir John "Cannesby," the priest

[1] The Christian names are omitted in the record, but are here supplied from later proceedings recorded *supra*, fo. 11 b.

Examinacio p'dc'i Joh'is Cannesby.

celebrating in the parish church of St. Bride, Fletestrete, was brought up in the custody of the Sheriff before the said Mayor and Aldermen, and being asked about the above forgery declared, on the word of a priest, that he knew nothing about it; but after the above confession of Richard Pery had been read to him confessed his guilt and pleaded for mercy. Whereupon he was ordered to set out in writing what he knew of the forgery in the same hand as he had written the forged document, and to bring it before them on the 8th Oct., which he did, in the following words:—

"Thomas Corbet come to me John 'Candesby' prest in to Fletestrete un to my chamber abowte þe Feste of Lammes and delivered me a copy of a dede concernyng how þ^t one Richard Pavy esquier and Johan his wif aboute þe þrid yere of Kyng Henry þe fourthe shuld a yofe[1] by a dede of feffement alle rentes and tenementes þat he had in þe paresshe of Seint Marie at Hyll to Pasmere þat yet liveth and Lane of Caunterbury þat is dede and prayde me to write on þ'after of Raghand[2] And I forseide John beyng a ferd þ^t it shuld be p'judice to sum party and he swore to me on a boke þat it was no p'judice to man lyvyng For he said it was rolled many yeres a go and for be cause it was lost he wold have a newe in strengthyng of right and none otherwise whiche I conceyved and yaf credence to for because he swore so sore to me the whiche dede I dide write and he yaf me for my travayll at þat tyme þat I delivered it to hym xx*d.* And an other tyme he toke me a Noble And after þat he come ayein to me in þe seide parissh and brought with hym þe scrowe þat I wrote defaced and made Oldlich to seme and sealled with a seall of armes as þaugh hit had be a verrey trewe dede and bade me write on þe bak þ'of as it were rolled in þe Kynges benche þe same thrid yere In þe roll cccclvij or elles cccc and xvij I knowe nat þe sertayne nowe And wenyng þat it had bene sothe for as mochell as it was writene on þe scrowe þat he broughte me firste I wrote it so and he prayde me to deliver þe dede to John of Kent and he

[1] Have given.

[2] Possibly meaning a Court-hand similar to that used in Ragman's Roll.

shuld pay me xj*li.* viij*s.* iiij*d.* þe whiche sire Symond Hoke did ough me so þat I wolde þat I hadde þat dede delivered be sire Simound Hoke forseid And þat forsaide Simound chargyng me to deliver it þe aunere[1] þat is to say Richard Pavy wif or elles eny other of þe neghe kyn Whiche dede I forsaide John 'Canesby' delivered to John of Kent at a Taillours house over for a yens Petres Taverne be Poules cheyne And alle þus he bade me seyne and so I hopyng and supposyng no wrong to no party to falle ne happen I did after þe same Corbettes wille and fulfilled hit þe whiche me reweth and he be hote me þ^t^ I shuld have alle þ^t^ was owyng me þ'upon And þere John of Kent delivered me a noble in þe same taillours house, &c."

Exoneracio Steph'i Bugge ab assisis.

16 Dec., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], Stephen Bugge, draper, discharged by William Crowmer, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Novum opus Guyhalde.

Wednesday the morrow of the Feast of St. Thomas, Ap. [21 Dec.], 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], it was agreed by William Crowmere, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, in their full and common Council, that all the fees, fines, and amercements granted during the Mayoralty of William Walderne, the late Mayor, for the work of the Guildhall should be continued until Michaelmas next.

Fo. 14 b.

Exon'acio Rogeri Childerne ab assisis etc.

20 Jan., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4], Roger Childerne, cordwainer, discharged by William Crowmer, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Thome Benet vinetarii ab assisis.

The same day Thomas Benet, vintner, similarly discharged for like cause.

Ordinance of Shermen sheres.

Ordinacio de Shermen sheres.

"For as mochell as here to fore many dayes þe makyng and gryndyng and oþer apparaillyng of Shermennes sheres hath stond and stondeth in þoccupac'on and exercise of tweyn or thre persones atte most withynne þis Cite Whiche for þeir singuler proffit and co'e harme have taken and taken fro day to day so excessiflich for þeir occupac'on aboute þe making

[1] The owner.

grinding and apparailing of suche shermen sheres þat it is shame and dole for to here Wherfore þe vj day of Decembre þe yere of Kyng Henry þe sixte after þe conquest second [A.D. 1423] William Crowmer Meir and Aldermen of þe Citie of London havyng considerac'on as well to þe co'e proffit as to þestate and resonable gayne and getyng of suche Sheregrinders be gode advys after ripe co'icac'on hadde with þe worthy of þe craftes of Drapers and Shermen in þe seide Cite Han ordeyned þat no Sheregrynder from þis day forward take more for a paire of newe Sherys gistyng[1] and gryndyng þan ij*s*. And whan þe same Shere hath ben used a xiiij or xv dayes þan þe Sheregrynder shall glace þe forseid newe Sheres at his owne coste and make hem able to werk and þan he be well and trewly paid for his labour And for an other shere redy gisted þei to have for þe gryndyng and settyng viij*d*. and no more for a peire And þan þe owener to have hem home and prove hem v or vj dayes if þei be well do And when þei be well and profitably do þei to be paied for her travaill And also accorded is be þe forseid Meir and Aldermen þat þe forseid Shermen of London shull fynde at alle tymes whiles her sheres be a gryndyng or amendyng two men to tourne þe stone Also awarded is be þe same Meir and Aldermen þat if eny strif or debate falle betwene þe seid Shermen and Sheregrynders for none paiement þat þan þe Sheregrynders shull pleyne to þe Wardens of þe Shermen being for þe tyme And þei shull do hem to be paied or elles paye hem hemself with ynne thre dayes next after her compleynt upon peyne of xl*s*. to be paide to þe Chambre of þe Yildhall of London as often as þei renne in þe payne And at alle tymes it is ordeyned be þe same Meir and Aldermen þat þe Sheregrynders shull go home to þe Shermenhous and there to sette and amende alle maner defautes longyng to here Sheres except only þe gryndyng And þei to be well and trewly paide as it is a forseid Also accorded is be þe same Meir and Aldermen as touching other Sheres þat be crakked fflaved[2] or fawty be necligence of þe oweners or eny of hise for alle suche Sheres þe Sheregrynders to take for hem

[1] Adjusting or setting.

[2] Flawed.

as þe seide Shermen and Sheregrynders mowe accorde And also it is accorded by þe saide 'Mair' and Aldermen þ^t þe same Sheregrynders be and shull be redy at alle tymes when þei godely mowe and be resonably required to serve þe saide Shermen in gryndyng and amendyng of her Sheres on peyne abovesaide &c."

Exon'acio Henr' Prestone stokfisshmonger' ab assis'.

26 Jan., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4], Henry Prestone, "stokfisshmongere," discharged by William Crowmer, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 15.

Custodia Nich'i alt'ius filior' Thome Petwardyn.

10 Jan., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423–4], the guardianship of Nicholas, one of the sons of Thomas Petwardyn, committed by William Crowmer, the Mayor, and Aldermen to Thomas Mayneld, grocer, for a term of five years. Sureties, viz., Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," and John Flemyng, horner.

Exon'acio Joh'is Yonge allutarii ab assisis.

3 Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423–4], John Yonge, cordwainer, discharged by William Crowmere, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to deafness and other infirmities.

Inquis' capt' ex officio pro falso scripto obligat' contra-facto.

Inquest *ex officio* taken at the Guildhall, according to the custom of the City, before William Crowmere, the Mayor, and Aldermen. The jurors—viz., John Calawey, Ralph Shaklache, John Dancastre, Matthew Somerfeld, Adam Carvile, John Hirst, Ralph Wilshire, John More, John Glynne, Andrew Crowherst, Roger Sharpe, and John Leman—say that on the 12th Dec., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], Johanna Cogenho and William Sutton forged a bond to the effect that Henry Bartone, skinner, was bound to pay a sum of £100 to Henry Chatertone and John Tetenale at Pentecost next.

Exon'acio Walteri Aleyn mynstrell'.

16 Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4], Walter Aleyn, a minstrel of Lynne [co. Norf.], discharged by William Crowmere, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 15 b.

Commissio d'ni Regis ad inquirend' de prodicionib' et feloniis.

Letters patent appointing William Crowmere, the Mayor, William Sevenoke, William Walderne, and John Fray to be Commissioners for investigation of all treasons and felonies committed in the City or suburbs, and to make a return of the

same under seal into Chancery. Witness the King at Westminster, 23 Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4].

Br'e de'i d'ni Regis de venire faciendo etc. directum vic' etc.

Writ to the Sheriffs to produce all witnesses that may be required by the above Commissioners. Witness the King at Westminster, same date.

Inquis' capt' virtute commissionis p'dc'e.

Inquisition taken by the above Commissioners on Friday, 25 Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4], by oath of John St. John, John Bacon, William Caldewelle, William Tropnell, John Tropnell, Robert Arnold, Robert Smythe, George Benet, Martin Aleyn, John Horold, John Wellys, Richard Sutton, Robert Cok, William Feirhere, Robert Whaplode, William Lely, John Exham, Thomas Peryngtone, John Bokkyng, and William Ferrour, who say that John Mortymer of Bisshopeshatfeld, co. Herts, Knt., who had been committed to the custody of John, Earl of Huntingdon, the Constable of the Tower, on suspicion of treason against the late King, had made his escape on the 23rd Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4], by the connivance of William Kyng of Wymeltone, in Rydale, co. York, servant to Robert Scot, esquire, to whom he had promised divers sums of money.[1]

Joh'es Mortymer ch'r judicat' de prodic'oe.

28 April, 2 Henry VI. [1424], account rendered before John Welles and Robert Whityngham, Aldermen, by Jankyn Faryngdon, administrator of the goods of John Ailesham, late grocer.

Fo. 16.

Compotus Alicie relicte Will'i Lynne et al'.

Account rendered by Alice, widow and executrix of William Lynne, grocer, and her co-executors, as enrolled among the Mayor's Memoranda, 19 Feb., A.D. 1423[-4].

Recognicio fc'a Cam'ar' per eosdem execut'.

Tuesday, the last day of February, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4], came the above Alice, and Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," and John Bloxham her co-executors, and entered into a bond to render account to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, when called upon.

[1] Mortimer appears to have been twice committed to the Tower and twice to have escaped, his first escape having been effected anno 1 Hen. VI. On being again taken, he was indicted and convicted under the *Statute of Escapes*. William Kyng testified that Mortimer had agreed to give him £40 for assisting him to escape, with the promise of a future earldom, and had declared himself in favour of the Earl of March as rightful heir to the Crown. On Saturday following the Inquisition he was executed at Tyburn. See State Trials; 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 202; Amundesham (Rolls Series, No. 28), pp. 6, 7; Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London' (Clar. Press), pp. 282–3, 341–2.

Fo. 16 b. *Custodia xx marc' legat' Joh'e filie sororis Will'i Fitzhugh et cs. legat' Joh'i fr'i suo.*

16 March, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4], came Robert Walton, goldsmith, who married Elena, late wife of William Fitzhugh,[1] goldsmith, and delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, divers sums of money bequeathed by the said William to Johanna, daughter of the testator's sister [not named], aged seventeen, and to John Martyn, son of the said sister of the testator, aged nine years.

Afterwards, viz., on the 17th March, the money was committed by William Croumere, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to the said Robert in trust for the said Johanna and John. Sureties, viz., Richard Stacy, John Joce, John Edmond, and Richard Spenser, goldsmiths.

Afterwards, viz., on the 22nd Jan., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427-8], came the above Johanna and received the money due to her.

Custodia puer' Will'i Lynne commissa Alicie matri eorumdem etc.

1 March, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4], came Alice, widow and executrix of William Lynne, grocer,[2] and Marion Leighton her sister, Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," John Frepurs, mercer of Bedford, and John Bloxham, co-executors with the said widow, and brought into Court the money left by her late husband to John, Robert, Margaret, Alice, and Beatrix his children.

Fo. 17.

Afterwards, viz., on the 16th March, the same year, the guardianship of John and Robert and their patrimony was committed by William Crowemere, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Alice their mother. Sureties, viz., Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," John Sergeaunt, "armurer," and Robert Trewlove, cordwainer.

The same day the patrimony of Alice and Margaret, daughters of the above William Lynne, was committed to Thomas Catworth, grocer. Sureties, viz., Thomas Aleyn, mercer, William Olyver and Robert Otteley, grocers.

[1] His will, dated 5 Aug., 1420, was proved and enrolled in the Husting in the following January. 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 423.

[2] His will, dated 6 Aug., 1421, was proved and enrolled in the Husting in Nov., 1423. 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 433. He is elsewhere described as a woolman (*lanarius*). See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' pp. 268-9, where an explanation of his double description as woolman and grocer is given in a note.

The same day the patrimony of Beatrix, daughter of the said William, was committed to William Trymnel, mercer. Sureties, viz., William Melreth, John Whateley, and John Olney, mercers. Fo. 17 b.

Afterwards, viz., on the 19th April, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], came Thomas Oxney (who, with the assent of John Gedney, late Mayor, and of the Aldermen, had married the above Beatrix) before Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his wife's patrimony.

12 May, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], the executors of William Wodeward, late "foundour," came before William Crowmer, Mayor, and the Aldermen, and delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, the sum of £100 bequeathed by the said William Wodeward to Margaret his daughter. On the following day the guardianship of the said Margaret, together with her property, was committed by the said Mayor and Aldermen to John Hyham, draper. Sureties, viz., Walter Chartesey and John Femell, drapers, and John Melbourne, grocer. Fo. 18. *Custodia Margarete filie Will'i Wodeward.*

6 June, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], William atte Stoke, dyer, discharged by William Crowmere, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio Will'i at Stoke tinctoris London'.*

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all persons to whom the late King Henry IV. was indebted for the expenses of his household, chamber, wardrobe, &c., at the time of his death, and who had not received from his executors one-half of the money due, to send in their claims to John Pelham, Knt., and John Leventhorpe, esquire, two of the aforesaid executors, by Monday after the Nativity of St. John Bapt. [24 June], at the Priory of St. Mary de Suthwerk. Witness the King at Westminster, 5 June, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].[1] *Proclamacio per br'e etc. de debitis H. iiij^ti solvend' per execut' suos.*

Letter from the Mayor and Aldermen to the Duke of Bedford acknowledging the receipt of his letter sent to them from "Craille upon case"[2] in Normandy, and assuring him of the peaceful condition of the City.[3] [No date.] Fo. 18 b. *L'ra missa per Maiorem et Aldr'os d'no Duci Bedford.*

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 15.

[2] Creil-sur-Oise.

[3] Printed in 'London and the Kingdom,' vol. iii. pp. 368-9. Cf. Delpit, *op. cit.*, pp. 234-5.

Fo. 19. The oath of the Coroner (*French*).[1]

Hokkyng defenduz. Precept for proclamation to be made forbidding "hokkyng" on days called "les hokkedayes," on pain of imprisonment and fine.

Consi'les billa missa fuit cuil't Aldermanno. Precept to the Aldermen that they cause a sufficient armed watch to be kept in their several Wards on the nights and eves of St. John the Baptist [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], and that they take the customary precautions against fire. Dated 2 June, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].

Proclamacio. Proclamation to be made forbidding any vintner, taverner, + brewer, hosteler, huckster, cook, or piebaker within the City and liberties to keep his house open after 10 o'clock at night on the eves of St. John the Baptist and SS. Peter and Paul next ensuing, or to sell wine, ale, fish, or flesh, boiled, roasted, or in pasties, before 6 o'clock in the morning afterwards, under penalty.

Fo. 19 b. Writ of Privy Seal to the Mayor and Aldermen to search the City's records and certify whether there be any immemorial custom to the effect that if a man devise lands and tenements in the City to his next heir and the heirs of his body, and in default of heirs of his body the same be sold by the executors of their executors, and if the next heir of the said testator after the testator's death should alienate the said lands and tenements in fee and retake possession of the said lands and tenements to himself in tail, with remainder to his right heirs, and then should die without issue of his body, and his next heir enter on the said lands and tenements by way of such remainder—whether the executors of the executors of the executors of the executors of the executors of the said original testator can by the custom of the City sell and alienate the said lands and tenements by virtue of the devise aforesaid, and can oust the heirs of the said lands and tenements in remainder by descent after the death of their ancestor or not. If any such custom or usage be found, they are to certify the same under seal to the King's Council the day after the Ascension

[1] The same as that recorded in Letter-Book D, fly-leaf A, and set out in the Calendar of the Letter-Book (pp. 1–2).

[2 June] next ensuing. Dated at Westminster, 20 Feb., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423-4].[1]

Exon'acio Rob'ti Brendewode salter ab assisis.

14 July, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], Robert Brendewode, salter, discharged by William Crowmere, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 20.

Custodia Roberti filii Roberti Odyham.

1 July, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], the guardianship of Robert, son of Robert Odiham, late grocer, together with his patrimony, formerly committed to William Cotesbrook, grocer, now committed by William Crowmere, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to John Poley,[2] grocer, for a term of three years. Sureties, viz., Geoffrey Dallyng, John Sadiller, vintners, Adam Copendale, brewer, and Stephen Roo, capper.

Afterwards, viz., on the 30th Oct., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], came the above orphan, then being of full age, and received his patrimony in the Court of John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, from the above John Poley.

Masters of Misteries sworn.

Barbers: William Hunne, William Chapeleyn, William Ryggewyk, Simon Rolf, John Daltone, sworn 2 Sept., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423].

..... John Rechemond, Henry Rechemond.[3]

Powchemakers: John Shakstaf, John Baylly, John Walter, Thomas Evertone, sworn 6 Oct., the same year.

Latteners (Lat. *Latoni*): Stephen Reede, John Mareschall, sworn the same day.

Cappers: Thomas Kyng, Thomas Lynne, Robert Byllyngay, sworn 7 Oct., the same year.

Wexchaundelers: John Peryn, James Coterell, sworn 12 Oct., the same year.

Steynours: John Mowbray, Simon Taillour, sworn 20 Oct., the same year.

[1] No return to this writ appears to be recorded.

[2] He appears to have married the orphan's sister Elizabeth. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 177.

[3] These names appear without the name of any Mistery and without date.

Fo. 20 b. *"Armeres":* Thomas White, Clement Bisshop, sworn 22 Oct., the same year.

Coriours: William Grome, Hamond Taverner, sworn 25 Oct., the same year.

Smythes: John Thurlade, William Johnsone, John Robynys, sworn 15 Nov., the same year.

Pynners: Thomas Undirhelde, Richard Madestone, Thomas Maunger', sworn Wardens the same day.

Wollen Wevers aliens: Henry Neteleship, Segar Vangeel, sworn 20 Nov., the same year.

Cordwainers: Thomas Merlowe, Thomas Burgate, Thomas Robnette, John Richard, sworn 28 June, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].

Lethersellers: Nicholas Chirche, John Gauge, sworn 7 July, the same year.

John Ley, girdler, John Bernard, Richard White, "coriour," sworn for making assay of leather 19 July, the same year.

Shermen: William Holand, Robert Calowe, William Spaldynge, sworn 20 July, the same year.

Copyrsmythes: John Stevyn, John Dene, sworn 3 Aug., the same year.

Joinours: John Gay, Nicholas Gylle, sworn 16 Aug., the same year.

Surgeons: Thomas Morstede, William Bradwardyn, sworn 17 Aug., the same year.

Bladsmythes: John Layner, John Golyght, sworn 29 Aug., the same year.

Linen Weavers: John Baltazar, Henry Dankyn, sworn 27 July, the same year.

Barbers: Richard Snadenham, John Qweldryk, Richard Merlawe, sworn 1 Sept., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].

Surgeons: Richard Welles, Simon Rolf, sworn the same day.

Botelmakers: Thomas Assheborn, Thomas Langley, sworn 12 Sept., the same year.

Fo. 21.

Acquitance fait par le Mair as merchantzdesvilles Damieux Corby et Neel.

Acquittance under the Mayoralty seal for the sum of 50 marks received from John de Burneux, merchant of Amiens, pursuant to the "composition" made between the City of London and merchants of Amiens, Corby, and Neel.[1] Dated 25 Aug., A.D. 1424.

L'ra missa d'no Bedford per Maiorem et Aldr'os.

Letter from the Mayor and Aldermen to the Duke of Bedford congratulating him upon his "cronicable and victoriouse exploit" at "Vermeil on Perche." [No date.][2]

Fo. 21 b.

Br'e de proclamacione pro Triinkes amovend'.

Writ to the Sheriff of Middlesex[3] that he cause the following statute made in the last Parliament to be proclaimed within his bailiwick. Witness the King at Westminster, 12 July, 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].

Ordinacio pro Triinkes amovend'.

Ordinance for the removal of engines called "Triinkes" fastened or anchored in the Thames and other rivers, as they destroyed the fry of fish, but allowing the use of the same engines when drawn by hand, at suitable seasons, and not fixed.

Br'e pro aqua Thamisie.

Writ to the Mayor that he cause all nets called "Trynkes" and others with too small meshes, &c., to be removed from the Thames within the City's jurisdiction pursuant to an order made in the Parliament held anno 9 Henry V.[4] and the statute made anno 1 Henry VI. Witness the King at Westminster, 4 Sept., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].

Fo. 22.

Eleccio Simonis Seman et Joh'is Bithewater in vic'.

Thursday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], in the presence of William Crowmere, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, Henry Bartone, William Sevenoke, William Cauntbrige, John Michell, John Reynwell, John Coventre, John Perneis, Ralph Bartone, John Welles, Robert Tatersalle, Simon Seman, William Estfeld, and Nicholas James,

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' p. 29n.

[2] The victory was gained over a Franco-Scottish army, more numerous than the Duke's own force, at Verneuil, on the 17th Aug., 1424. Gregory's 'Chron.,' p. 157. Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London,' pp. 75, 129, 284. The letter is set out in 'London and the Kingdom,' vol. iii. pp. 369-70. Cf. Delpit, *op. cit.*, p. 235, where, however, the French antiquary suggests *July* as the date of the letter.

[3] Writs addressed to the Sheriff of Middlesex (as distinct from the Sheriff or Sheriffs of London) are not of frequent occurrence. See 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' p. 76n.; 'Cal. Letter-Book B,' p. 56; 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' p. 160.

[4] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 132.

Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Simon Seman, vintner, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and John Bithewater was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty for the year ensuing.

The same day John Bederendene, draper, was elected Chamberlain, and Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," and John Trimnell, mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; also John Coventre and Robert Whitingham, Aldermen, John Bacon, grocer, Thomas Boteler, fishmonger, John Higham, draper, and William Milreth, mercer, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted before the Barons of the Exchequer, &c.

Writ to the Mayor and Aldermen to search the City's records to see if there be any immemorial custom that if a citizen devise his tenement to be sold by his executors or their executors, the successive executors can sell the same and give a good estate therein to the purchasers, or otherwise;[1] and to make a return thereon to the Justices at Westminster within three weeks of Michaelmas, inasmuch as the question had arisen in a plea at Westminster between Margaret, late wife of John Philipot, Knt., John Boys, Knt., and Thomasia his wife, John Whattone and Agnes his wife, John Gray, Margaret St. Germayn, and Thomasia St. Germayn, plaintiffs, and William Brounyng of London, "skynner," for breaking into their house. Witness William Babyngtone[2] at Westminster, 9 Oct., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].

Exoneracio Joh'is Hoke couper ab assisis.

19 Oct., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], John Hoke, "couper," discharged by William Crowmere, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

23 Oct., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], came John Essex, cordwainer, executor of William Jon, brewer, into the Chamber of the Guildhall and delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamber-

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 28.

[2] Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

lain, the sum of 20 marks in trust for John and John, sons of the said William.[1]

Fo. 22 b.

Eleccio Joh'is Michell in officium Maioratus.

Friday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], after mass in the chapel of the Guildhall, in the presence of William Croumere, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Fray, the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, Robert Chicheley, Nicholas Wotton, Henry Barton, William Sevenoke, William Cauntbrigge, John Michell, John Reynwelle, John Gedney, John Coventre, Ralph Bartone, John Perneys, Robert Tatersall, John Wellis, Richard Gosselyn, Robert Wydyngtone, William Estfeld, Simon Seman, Nicholas James, John Bithewater, and Henry Frowyk, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, John Michell was elected. Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c. [*sic*], before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Un ordeignaunce fait sur Brocours aliens.

8 Oct., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], ordinance by William Crowmere, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty that the former ordinances regulating alien brokers made during the Mayoralty of Robert Chichele, and entered in Letter-Book I, fos. cclxxv–cclxxvi, be duly observed, with the addition that at Michaelmas in every year there shall be elected by the Mayor and Aldermen twelve free and loyal men of the City, more or less, to be admitted as Brokers and sworn, they giving surety to the Chamberlain of the City for the time being, and that no one except those elected shall meddle with brokerage.

Ordinacio q'd nullus qui extitit Maior resumatur infra septem annos ad officium Maioratus.

The Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], in consideration of the great and increasing expenses incurred by the Mayors of that time in comparison with Mayors of former days, it was ordained by William Crowmere, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, in their Common Council assembled for the election of a Mayor, that no one who had been, or thenceforth should have been, Mayor of the City should be again admitted to the

[1] Cf. *infra*, p. 36.

office of Mayor until after the lapse of full seven years from his last Mayoralty.[1]

Exon'acio Thome Broun civis et groceri London' ab assisis.

5 April, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], Thomas Broun, grocer, discharged by John Coventre, Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 23.

Remembraunce et declaracioun fait en parlement pur ceux qui sount enfraunchisez deins Loundres par p'er ou redempcioun.

Recital of a petition [hereunto annexed], having been presented in the Parliament held at Westminster, anno 11 Henry IV.,[2] touching certain prises and customs of wine of which the King was being defrauded, and of the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen having been summoned before the said Parliament and made to show their liberty and franchise, whereby they claimed that every Mayor during his year of office could make six men free of the City,[3] by which liberty, as also by the fact that many others became freemen by redemption, the King was deprived of his prises and customs. Whereupon it had been ordained that thenceforth all those who were enfranchised by the Mayor by prayer (*par prier*) or redemption should pay the prises and customs due to the King for their wine just as though they had not been

[1] This ordinance appears to have been strictly observed down to 1545, when another ordinance was made to the effect that, on account of the increased price of living, no one who had once served as Mayor should be eligible for another whole year's service, nor should he be forced or enticed to serve for any portion of a year. (Letter-Book Q, fo. 146.) Between 1424 and 1545 nine individuals served twice as Mayor, after an interval of seven years or more, viz., John Michell, 1424 and 1436; John Gedney, 1427 and 1447; William Estfeld, 1429 and 1437; Henry Frowyk, 1435 and 1444; Stephen Broun, 1438 and 1448; Richard Lee, 1460 and 1469; Ralph Josselyn, 1464 and 1476; Henry Colet, 1486 and 1495; and John Aleyn or Allen, 1525 and 1535. In 1389 an order had been made that no one should serve as Mayor for more than one year at a time, but might be re-elected after an interval of *five* years. ('Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 347.) In 1435 it was ordained that no one who had twice served as Mayor should be elected a third time (*infra*, fo. 149).

[2] Met 27 Jan., 1410.

[3] In 1409 William Staundone, the Mayor, had declined to exercise this prerogative, and it was thereupon ordained that he and succeeding Mayors taking the same course should receive ~~yearly~~ two casks of wine. ('Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 64.) In 1434 Mayors were forbidden to exercise the privilege of making freemen, and were to be allowed four casks of the best Gascony wine instead (*infra*, fo. 140 b).

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enfranchised, under penalty of forfeiture, and that the Mayor for the time being should be sworn at the Exchequer to maintain the said ordinance in all particulars. The said ordinance, however, not having been observed, the King and Parliament are desired to provide a remedy.

Q'd cives sint residentes infra Civitat' qui lib'tat' gaudere volunt.

Inspeximus of petition made by Thomas Chaucer, the King's Chief Butler, in the Parliament held at Westminster, anno 11 Henry IV., setting forth that from time immemorial the Kings of England had enjoyed their prises of wine in every English Port, saving the Port of London and the Cinque Ports, which were exempt, on the understanding that such exemption applied only to those who permanently resided therein; but that now, and for a long time past, any foreigner who wished to become a freeman of the City could obtain the freedom for a small sum by applying to the Mayor, the Chamberlain, or the Masters of some Mistery, as if he were a continual resident in the City, although he belong to some other town or borough of England, whereby the King is defrauded of his dues and customs—he prayed Parliament therefore to ask the King and his Council to send for the Mayor and Aldermen and command them and the Masters of the various Misteries to cease from granting the franchise to foreigners, under penalty of forfeiture of the City's franchise. To which the King had replied that he would send for the Mayor and Aldermen, and had further declared, by the advice of the lords of Parliament, that no one should enjoy the franchise unless he were a citizen resident within the City, and that all others resident in other cities, boroughs, and towns should have and enjoy the franchise granted to them.[1] Witness the King at Westminster, 20 Oct. 14 [Henry IV.].

The statute passed in the Parliament held at Westminster, 20 Oct., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423].[2] Fos. 23b-25b, 35 b.

[N.B. There is no folio numbered 26.]

[1] The petition is set out in 'Rot. Parl.,' iii. 646.

[2] The statute is loosely described in the margin as one dealing with badly tanned leather and other matters. See 'Statutes at Large,' i. 523-531.

Fo. 27. *Exon'acio Galfridi Cook Webbe ab assisis.*

7 Nov., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], Geoffrey Cook, "webbe," discharged by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, owing to increasing old age.

Custodia filior' Will'i "John" cum xx marc'.

The guardianship of John and John, sons of [William "John"] together with their patrimony, committed by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to John Essex, cordwainer, who married Alice, the orphans' mother, for a term of ten years.[1] Sureties, viz., Simon Sewale, saddler, William Rauf, gent., and William Belle, brewer (*pandoxator*). [No date.]

Exon'acio Roberti Pellican ab assisis.

14 Nov., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], Robert Pellican, "stokfisshmonger," discharged by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Consi'le mandatum miss' fuit cuil't Aldermanno.

Precept to the Aldermen to hold their several Wardmotes, and to make a return of such matters as they themselves are unable to correct to the Mayor's General Court, to be held on Monday after the Epiphany [6 Jan.]; also to cause a certain number of persons to be elected to the Common Council, armed watches to be set, &c. Dated 12 Dec.

Fo. 27 b.

Friday, 10 Nov., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], ordinance by John Michell, the Mayor, Thomas Knolles, Robert Chichele, William Crowmere, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Sevenoke, William Cauntbrigge, John Reynwelle, Robert Tatersalle, Ralph Bartone, John Perneys, John Coventre, John Gedney, John Welles, Nicholas James, William Estfeld, Richard Gosselyn, and Henry Frowyk, Aldermen, and Simon Seman and John Bithewater, Sheriffs, to the effect that Masters of the faculty of Surgery in the Mistery of Barbers of the City shall exercise the said faculty as fully as they did in the days of Thomas Fauconer, late Mayor, and other Mayors, notwithstanding the claim (*calumpnia*) which the Rector and Surveyors of Physicians and the Masters of Surgery now newly impose upon the said Barbers by virtue of a certain ordinance made during the Mayoralty of William Walderne, and entered *supra*, fo. 6 [b].[2]

[1] Cf. *supra*, pp. 32-3.

[2] By that ordinance the scrutiny and supervision of those practising surgery were vested in a joint College

Ordinacio Fuistarior'

Friday, 10 Nov., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], ordinance by John Michell, the Mayor, Thomas Knolles, Robert Chichele, William Crowmere, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Sevenoke, William Cauntbrigge, John Reinwelle, Robert Tatersall, Ralph Bartone, John Perneis, John Coventre, John Gedney, John Wellis, Nicholas James, Richard Gosselyn, William Estfeld, and Henry Frowyk, Aldermen, and Simon Seman and John Bithewater, Sheriffs, to the effect that thenceforth the men of the Mistery of Fusters should exercise the scrutiny of all fusts or wood for saddles (*omnium fustorum sive lignorum pro sellis ordinatorum*), by six men of the Mistery elected for that purpose and sworn in Court, in accordance with the form and equity of a certain ordinance recorded in Letter-Book C, fo. ccii[1] (notwithstanding any claim imposed upon them by the Saddlers of London by virtue of a certain royal charter touching the using of saddlery throughout the realm), and entered in the Husting for Common Pleas held on Monday after the Feast of St. Peter in Cathedra [22 Feb.], 47 Edward III. [A.D. 1372-3].[2] Provided always that the said six persons shall not make their scrutiny without the Serjeant of the Mayor or Chamber specially assigned for the purpose. The Masters and good men of the Mistery of Saddlers are forbidden to bring foreign fusters to make fusts (*fuistas*) into the City, &c.

Transmutacio Joh'is Salman ab mistera de Malemakers in Misteram de Lethersellers.

14 Jan., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424-5], came John Salman, "malemaker,"[3] before John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and showed that whereas he had been admitted to the freedom of the City in the Mistery of Malemakers *temp.* Drew Barantyn, Mayor, viz., on the 7th Oct., 11 Henry IV.

of Surgery and Medicine without reference to the Mistery of Barber-Surgeons. See D'Arcy Power's 'Memorials of the Craft of Surgery,' pp. 58–9, and also Appendix B. Cf. Sidney Young's 'Annals of the Barber-Surgeons,' pp. 42-3.

[1] A mistake for fo. cii. See 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' pp. 167-8.

[2] By charter dated 12 Oct., 3 Henry VI., the King had recently confirmed the charter granted to the Saddlers by Edward III., anno 37 of his reign, and enrolled ten years later. Husting Roll (Common Pleas), No. 97.

[3] See 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' p. 74n.

[A.D. 1409], he had long since used, and was still using, the Mistery of Lethersellers and not that of Malemakers. He therefore prayed to be admitted to the freedom of the City in the Mistery of Lethersellers. His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Mistery.

Fo. 28. *The ordenaunce for masons carpenters and othir what thei schul take be the day.* Ordinance of the Mayor and Aldermen prescribing the amount of wages to be paid to masons, carpenters, plasterers, shipwrights, and other journeymen, under penalty of fine and imprisonment. [No date.]

Fo. 28 b. *Proclamacio.* Proclamation for all persons aggrieved by any contract of false "chevesaunce" or usury to lay the matter before the Mayor and Aldermen.

Ordinacio Pontis London'. Ordinance forbidding any one to drive a cart or car shod with iron over London Bridge, on pain of imprisonment and fine, inasmuch as the bridge had become weak. [No date.]

Exon'acio Joh'is Duffehous civis et piscenarii London' ab assisis. 26 Jan., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424-5], John Duffehous, fishmonger, discharged by John Mychell, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Joh'is Cappe civis et Founder London' ab assisis etc. 9 Feb., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424-5], John Cappe, "foundour," similarly discharged for like cause.

Exon'acio Gilberti Devenishe civis et pelliparii London' ab assisis etc. 14 Feb., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424-5], Gylbert Devenishe, skinner, similarly discharged for like cause.

Feod' concess' Thome Botiller servienti. 16 Dec., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], ordinance by John Michell, the Mayor, Robert Chichele, William Crowmere, Nicholas Wottone, William Sevenok, John Reynwell, John Coventre, John Gedney, Ralph Bartone, Robert Tatersale, John Welles, Nicholas Jamys, William Estfeld, Simon Seman, and Henry Frowyk [Aldermen], that Thomas Botiller, one of the Mayor's Serjeants, shall receive yearly the same fee as other of the Mayor's Serjeants, so long as he behave himself well in that office.

Fo. 29.

Judicium acquietacionis Rob'ti Leversegge et Joh'is Spark de diversis falsitat' et decepcionib' eis impositis.

6 Nov., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], Robert Leversegge and John Sparke, "taillour," attached to answer a charge brought against them by Alexander Anne, the Common Serjeant-at-law of the City, of having forged an assignment called *Debentur*, similar to a true assignment which John Grymesbi had received in respect of money due to him out of the Wardrobe[1] of the late King Henry IV. for divers furs. The defendants said they were not guilty, and put themselves on the country for good or evil. A jury sworn, who find them not guilty. Therefore let them go quit, &c.

Br'e d'ni Regis ad delib'and' prison'.

Letters patent reciting a grant made by the King to John Coventre, John Carpenter, John White, and William Grove, executors of Richard Whityngtone, late citizen and mercer, allowing them to pull down the gaol and gate of Neugate and to build another gaol with the goods of the said Richard, and also to remove the prisoners therein to some other fitting place in the meanwhile, which prisoners had accordingly been removed to the Sheriffs' Compters—and nominating John Michell, the Mayor, William "Cheine," William Babyngtone, John Juyn, Robert Tirwhit, John Hals, John Cokayn, John Prestone, John Martyn, and John Fray, or any nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, or two (the Mayor being one), to be Commissioners for delivery of such prisons. Witness the King at Westminster, 26 Jan., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424-5].

Fo. 29 b.

Transmutacio Joh'is Saint John ab Misteria de Lynge armurers ad Misteram de Drapers.

6 March, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424-5], came John St. John, "lynge armurer," before John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted to the freedom of the City in the art of "Lynge Armurers"[2] on the 17th July, 3 Henry IV. [A.D. 1402], he had long since been using the mistery or art of Drapers, as the Masters and other good men of the Mistery of "Lynge Armurers" testified. He therefore prayed to be

[1] Probably the Great Wardrobe in Castle Baynard Ward.

[2] The Linen-armourers formed a company with the Tailors. The charter granted to them by Edward III. is recorded in Letter-Book F (see 'Cal.,' p. 52). Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 161.

admitted to the freedom of the City in the art of Drapers. His prayer granted.

Cappe forisfacte etc.

Richard Segrym, "hurer," attached to answer a charge of having caused 32 caps called "nyghtcappes" to be fulled at a mill contrary to the ordinance. The said Richard denied the charge and claimed a jury. On Friday the 9th Feb. [3 Henry VI.] the jurors, viz., Stephen Roo, Richard Flete, Thomas Kyng, John Smyth, John atte Wode, Simon Wayte, Robert Brantham, Simon Wastell, John Valentyn, Robert Billyngey, Thomas Lynne, Thomas Taillour, Richard Bernard, and Thomas Wottone, cappers, find that the said caps were unlawfully fulled at a mill. The Mayor and Aldermen thereupon adjudged the caps to be forfeited, and the said Richard to pay 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Commonalty.

Fo. 30.

Br'e d'ni Regis pro Parliamento.

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation in the next Husting of a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the 30th April next, and to cause four discreet and sufficient citizens to be elected to attend the same; and further to return the names of the elected and the electors in indentures according to statute. No Sheriff to be returned. Witness the King at Westminster, 24 Feb., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424-5].[1]

Consimilis billa miss' fuit cuilibet Aldermanno.

Precept to the Aldermen to set an armed watch in their several Wards on the nights and eves of St. John Bapt. [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], and take the usual precautions against fire. Dated 12 June, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425].

Concessio cujusdam parcelle terre Abbati Monasterii Sc'i Petri de Certesey etc.

16 May, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], grant by John Michell, Mayor, and the Aldermen to John Hermondesworth, Abbot of the monastery of St. Peter de Certesey,[2] of a parcel of land of the common soil of the Thames, lying in the parish of St. Peter near Pouleswharf, near the river shore, whereon

[1] The return not recorded in the Letter-Book, but in the City's Journal of the day (Journal 2, fo. 40) the names of those elected are given as Nicholas Wotton and John Welles, Aldermen; Everard Flete and Thomas Bernewell, Commoners.

[2] Chertsey, co. Surrey, where there was a monastery of the Benedictine order.

to build a wharf; to hold the same to his and his successors for ever on payment of 20*s.* to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain of the Guildhall, to the use of the Commonalty.

[*Masters of Misteries sworn.*]

Fo. 30 b.

Armurers: John Alfles, John Clifton, sworn 10 Oct., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424].

Physicians: Master Gilbert Kymer, Doctor of Medicines and Rector of Physicians (*Medicorum*), presented by Physicians (*Phisicos*) and Surgeons, and sworn 27 Sept., the same year.

Master John Sumbreshede, Master Thomas Suthwell, sworn Surveyors the same day, being presented by Physicians.

Tapicers: William Bullok, John Pyriel, Robert Heb, John Everyngham, sworn 1 Oct., the same year.

Wexchaundelers: John Broke, Richard de Bury, sworn 25 Oct., the same year.

Coriours: John Smyth, John Page, sworn the same day.

Foundours: Walter Adoon, Nicholas West, sworn 26 Oct., the same year.

Flecchers: Roger Daneneye, Walter Takeneswell, sworn the same day.

Wollenwevers: Richard Pattyn, Richard Raulyn, sworn 21 Nov., the same year.

Salters: Eustace Valdrian, Thomas Beawmond, sworn 12 Jan., the same year [A.D. 1424-5].

Custodia puerorum Baldewini Laurence.

10 June, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], the guardianship of John, William, Alice, and Johanna, children of Baldwin Laurence, baker, together with their patrimony, committed by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to Matilda, late wife of the said Baldwin and mother of the said orphans, for a term of five years.[1] Sureties, viz., John Melbourne, grocer, Robert Stratford, fishmonger, and John Hoke, "couper."

3 March, 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445-6], came the above William Laurence before Symon Eyre, the Mayor, and Aldermen, and

[1] Cf. *infra*, fo. 139 b.

acknowledged that he had received his portion from John Chichele, the Chamberlain.

Custodia puer' Hugonis Birches nup' civis et pannar' London'.

10 July, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], the guardianship of William, Agnes, and Matilda, children of Hugh Birches, late draper, together with their patrimony, committed by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Quyntone, grocer, who married Margery, late wife of the said Hugh, for a term of five years, if the said orphans so long live and are not married. Sureties, viz., Thomas Knolles, junior, Thomas Oxney, grocer, and John Goldhauk, draper.

Fo. 31. *Exon'acio Andree Hunte civis et zonarii London' ab assisis.*

21 Aug., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], Andrew Hunte, girdler, discharged by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio cur' de cc^li^ pertinent' Elizabet filie Will'mi Staundone.

3 Aug., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], came Elizabet, daughter of William Staundone, late grocer, being twenty-one years of age, before John Michell, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, Henry Barton, William Sevenok, and Simon Seman, Aldermen, and with the assent of Robert Chichele and William Rokesborugh, her said father's executors, received the sum of £200 from John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, the said patrimony having been delivered to John Hille, a former Chamberlain, on her father's death, and afterwards to Sir William Porter, Knt., who married her mother Agnes, late wife of the said William Staundone.[1]

Ordinacio Mistere de Pynners et de Cardemakers.

24 July, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], came all the folk of the Misteries of Pynners, Irenwirdrawers, and Cardmakers[2] free of the City before John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and complained that within the last six or seven years some

[1] From his will, proved and enrolled in the Husting in 1412 ('Calendar of Wills,' ii. 393), Agnes appears to have been the name of his second wife, a former wife being named Elizabeth, by whom he had no children. According to this will his daughter was to receive her patrimony if she lived beyond the age of fourteen and married (*si ipsa vixerit ultra etatem quatuordecim annorum et maritata fuerit*).

[2] The association of these misteries has been already noted. See 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' pp. 63-4; 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 50n., 291.

freemen of the Mistery of Pynners had employed and coloured[1] (*coloures*) strange Wirdrawers and Cardemakers, thereby depriving free Irenwirdrawers and Cardemakers of their livelihood; also that certain freemen of the said Mistery of Irenwirdrawers and Cardemakers had employed and coloured foreign Pynners, whereby many free Pynners were deprived of their livelihood, and thus dissension had oftentimes arisen. They pray therefore that the Court would authorize the following ordinances, viz.:—

(1) That no one of the Mistery of Pynners within the City shall do any work belonging to the Mistery of Cardemakers, or put to work any Wirdrawer of iron on anything appertaining to the Mistery of Pynners, either secretly or openly, under penalty prescribed.

(2) That no one of the Mistery of Cardemakers shall do any work appertaining to the Mistery of Pynners, or put any Pynner to work, under similar penalty.

The above ordinances approved.

[*Masters of Misteries sworn.*] Fo. 31 b.

Cordwainers: Thomas Burgate, John Champeney, Thomas Robinett, William Trumpyngton, sworn 2 July, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425]. +

Lorimers: John Parys, John Mylkedale, William West, sworn the same day.

Coupers: John Golinge, John Longe, sworn 20 June, the same year.

Sporiers: William Kighle, John Prowde, sworn the same day.

Writers of Court-letter: John Chesham, Richard Lyndesey, sworn Masters of the Faculty 18 July, the same year.

Linwevers: John Chirche, Richard Herbard, sworn 27 July, the same year.

Bladsmithes: Thomas Racton, William Lister, sworn 30 August, the same year.

Copersmithes: Thomas Bedell, William Spicer, sworn 31 August, the same year.

[1] Passed them off as freemen.

Licencia dat' Rectori ct parochi' Sc'i Martini inf^a Ludgate ad edificand' campanile super co'i solo.

21 Sept., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], licence granted by John Michell, the Mayor, and an immense Commonalty assembled at a Common Council in the Guildhall, to William Downe, the Rector, and the parishioners of St. Martin within Ludgate, of a parcel of land of the common soil of the City at the west end of the church, 28 ft. in length and 24 ft. in breadth, whereon to build a belfry in the shape of a tower, the said Rector and parishioners and their successors paying annually into the Chamber the sum of 2*s.*; provided that at the discretion of the Mayor and Aldermen the said belfry have two gates or ways whereby the Mayor and Commonalty or their deputies can pass through whensoever and as often as they will in order to do what they see to be necessary.

Novum opus Guyhalde.

Friday the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], ordinance by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, that all fines and fees touching enrolment, &c., of apprentices, the enrolment of deeds and wills, the sealing of letters patent and close with the seal of the Mayor, shall continue to be levied to the use of the Guildhall until Michaelmas, 1426.[1]

Fo. 32.

Eleccio Will'mi Melreth et John Brokle Vic'.

Friday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], in the presence of John Michell, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, Robert Chichele, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Sevenok, William Cauntbrigge, John Reynwell, John Gedeney, John Perneys, Robert Widyngtone, Robert Tatersalle, Nicholas James, Ralph Bartone, John Coventre, John Welles, Robert Whityngham, Richard Gosselyn, William Estfeld, Simon Seman, and John Bithewater, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, William Melreth, mercer, was elected one of the Sheriffs for the year ensuing by the Mayor, and John Brokle, the other Sheriff, by the Commonalty.

The same day John Bederenden, draper, was elected Chamberlain; and .....,[2] and John Trymnell, mercer, Wardens of London Bridge; Robert Whityngham and John

[1] Cf. ordinance of 1423, *supra*, p. 8.

[2] Blank space in record.

Welles, Aldermen, John Bacon, grocer, John Higham, draper, William Westone, draper, and John Olney, mercer, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the Chamberlain and Wardens of London Bridge.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the above Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

16 Oct., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], Edmund Twene, grocer, discharged by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio Ed'i Twene Groceri ab assisis.*

20 Oct., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], Richard Bawdewyn, wodemonger, similarly discharged. *Exon'acio Ric'i Bawdewyn wodemongere ab assisis.*

Acquittance by John Michell, the Mayor, for the sum of £22 received from John Galet, merchant of Amiens, in part payment of the sum of £50 due to the City from merchants of Amiens, Corby, and Neell, pursuant to the "composition" made between the parties. Dated 6 Aug., A.D. 1425. *Acquitance fait par le Mair.*

Friday, 26 April, 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], ordinance by John Michell, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, John Brokkle, William Gregory, William Estfeld, Thomas Chalton, John Welles, John Hatherle, Stephen Broun, John Gedney, Thomas Wandesford, John Pattesle, John Sutton, John Olney, and Robert Large, Aldermen, that foreign bakers bringing foreign bread for sale shall stand at the following five places, and not elsewhere, viz., Billingesgate and Quenehithe with neighbouring vacant places, at Fletebrige between the gate of the common latrine and the outer gate of the prison of the Flete with intervening lane, in Chepe between the High Cross and the Conduit, and in Cornhylle between the Conduit and Ledynhalle, under penalty of forfeiture of the whole of their foreign bread.

Ordinances by the King, with the assent of the Parliament held at Westminster, 30 April, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], (1) forbidding masons to hold assemblies and prevent the operation Fo. 32 b.

of the Statutes of Labourers;[1] (2) forbidding the exportation of sheep except for the purpose of victualling Calais; (3) prescribing the punishment of customers, &c., convicted of defrauding the King; (4) permitting the exportation of butter and cheese to other places than the Staple of Calais by licence from the Chancellor; and (5) authorizing the Chancellor to redress all grievances touching the conservancy of the river Lee.[2]

4 June [A.D. 1426], Thomas "Chaucers," the King's Chief Butler, claims prisage of wine discharged in the port of Bristol by William Knolles of Bristol, merchant, in January last, anno 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425-6]. The said William appears by Robert Mildenhale, his attorney, and says that he is not liable, inasmuch as the King's officers were forbidden to take prises from citizens of London by letters patent dated 6 March, 1 Edward III. [A.D. 1327-8], confirmed by his successors. [*Ends abruptly.*]

Fo. 33. *Carta Theutonicor' eis per co'itatem London' concess'.*

20 Feb., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426-7], grant by John Reynwell, the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Commonalty to the merchants of the Hanse of Almaine within London to have their Aldermen and all their liberties as formerly granted by Henry Waleys, sometime Mayor, and the Commonalty by letters patent under the City's seal and the seal of the King, dated June, 10 Edward I. [A.D. 1282];[3] and further that the said merchants shall be quit of all custom, &c., payable on merchandise, on condition that they pay yearly to the Sheriffs for the time being the sum of 40*s.*, and to the Mayor for the time being two barrels of best herring, one barrel of sturgeon, and a hundredweight of good and clean Polish wax, or their value in money as prescribed.

Fo. 33 b. Letters patent assigning to the Mayor and citizens a certain portion of the subsidy on wool and woolfells in the ports of

[1] The Duke of Gloucester sought to curry favour in the City by inciting artisans to disregard the Statutes of Labourers.

[2] The above (with the exception of No. 4) set out in 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 292-4.

[3] Referring to the "composition" mentioned *supra*, p. 45. See 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' p. 41.

London and Ipswich granted in Parliament,[1] for the repayment of a City loan of £3,000. Witness the King at Westminster, 10 June, 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425].

Fo. 34. Acquittance under the Common Seal by the Mayor and citizens for the sum of £900 received from John Norton, esquire, and John Botiller, collectors of the King's subsidy on wool and woolfells, in part repayment of the above loan. Dated 12 Nov., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425].

A similar acquittance for the sum of £400. Dated 5 Sept., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425].

A similar acquittance for the sum of £300 received from John Norton, esquire, and John Chalton, collectors of the subsidy. Same date.

Fo. 34 b. A similar acquittance for the sum of £500. Dated 7 Dec., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426].

A similar acquittance for the sum of £200. Dated 7 April, 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427].

A similar acquittance for the sum of £200. Dated 16 May, 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427].

Fo. 35. *Custodia corporum Ric'i Will'i Agnetis et Elianore pueror' Will'i Walderne.*

Recital of terms of the will of William Walderne, late mercer, to the effect that his lands, tenements, &c., in the parish of St. Benedict Shorhogge should be sold by his executors, and the proceeds, together with the residue of his property, divided into three equal parts, whereof one part was to be devoted to pious uses, another to be bestowed on Margaret[2] his wife by way of dower, and the third divided among his children; further, how on the 24th Oct., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424], the guardianship of Richard, William, Agnes, and Elianora, his children, had been committed by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Roys, of co. Norf., gentleman, and Margaret his wife, widow of the said William Walderne, Robert Otley, William Burtone, Thomas Catworth, grocers, and John Paddesley, goldsmith, becoming sureties, &c. [*Ends abruptly.*]

[1] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 275.

[2] A daughter of John atte Lee, chandler. See 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 403.

Fo. 35 b. [Here is entered the concluding portion of the statute 2 Henry VI. recorded on fos. 23 b–25 b.]

Fo. 36. Saturday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], in the presence of John Michell, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Fray, the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Sevenok, William Cauntbrigge, John Reinwell, John Gedney, Ralph Bartone, John Perneys, Robert Tatersall, Nicholas James, John Bithewater, John Coventre, John Welles, Richard Gosselyn, William Estfeld, Henry Frowik, and Simon Seman, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor, John Coventre was elected for the year ensuing.

Eleccio Joh'is Coventre in officium Maioratus.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.[1]

Exon'acio Will'mi Fox ab assisis. 26 Nov., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], William Fox, butcher, discharged by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Consimilis billa miss' fuit cuilibet Aldermanno. Precept to the Aldermen to hold their several Wardmotes, and make a return of matters they are themselves unable to correct to the Mayor's General Court, to be held on Monday after the Epiphany [6 Jan.]; and further, to take steps for guarding and cleansing the streets, and to cause a certain number to be elected for the Common Council,[2] &c. Dated 6 Dec. [A.D. 1425].

Fo. 36 b. 20 Nov., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], the guardianship of John, John, and Thomas, sons of John Vanne, brewer, together with their patrimony, committed by John Coventre, the Mayor, and

Custodia filior' Joh'is Vanne nup' civis et braciatoris London'.

[1] Gregory, the Alderman and chronicler, relates how the new Mayor, on his return from Westminster, was summoned with the Aldermen, in the middle of their dinner, by the Duke of Gloucester, and straitly charged to keep a good watch in the City that night, it being feared that a disturbance might arise through the ill-feeling that existed between Gloucester and Beaufort. 'Chron.,' p. 159. Cf. MS. Cotton, Cleopatra C. iv, fo. 33 b (Kingsford, 'Chron. of London,' p. 130).

[2] *Vide supra*, p. 19, note.

the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Katherine, widow of the said John Vanne, for a term of four years. Sureties, viz., Master Richard Waltham, text-writer (*scriptor texti*), William Forster, tailor, John Ossegoby, hosteler, and John Jacowe, brewer.

Exon'acio Will'mi Aspelond civis et Pelliparii London'.

23 Jan., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425-6], William Aspelond, skinner, discharged by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Custodia puer' Joh'is Norman nup' civis et Corser Lon-don'.

16 Jan., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425-6], the guardianship of John, William, Thomasia, and Agnes, children of John Norman, late "corser,"[1] together with their property, committed by John Coventre, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Johanna, late wife of the said John Norman, for a term of four years. Sureties, Ralph Spayne, Thomas Spayne, tapicers, John Chesham, scrivener, and "Ammonius Countis," "wodemonger."

Hokkyng defenduz.

Proclamation forbidding compulsory "hokkyng" on Monday or Tuesday next, called "les hokkedays," under penalty of fine and imprisonment. [No date.]

Fo. 37.

Commissio ad deliv'and' prison'.

Letters patent appointing John Coventre, the Mayor, William Cheyne, William Babyngtone, John Juyn,[2] Robert Tirwhit, John Hals, John Cokayne, John Prestone, John Martyn, and John Fray, or any nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, or two (the Mayor being one), to be Commissioners for delivery of prisoners out of the Sheriffs' Compters, where they had been placed pending the rebuilding of Newgate, pursuant to the will (*voluntas*) of Richard Whityngtone, late mercer.[3] Witness the King at Westminster, 18 Jan., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425-6].

Ordinacio fact' pro anguillis.

Saturday, 7 March, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425-6], it was ordained by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen that all fresh eels brought by water to the City to be sold shall be sold by weight, and not otherwise, as was ordained during the Mayoralty of Robert Chichele.[4]

[1] Horse-dealer.

[2] Or Ivyn. *Vide supra*, p. 18 n.

[3] Cf. *supra*, p. 39.

[4] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' pp. 101-2.

The above ordinance was first agreed to by John Coventre, the Mayor, John Symond, the Recorder,[1] Thomas Knolles, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas Wottone, William Cauntbrigge, John Reynwell, John Gedney, Ralph Barton, Robert Tatersall, John Bithewater, Simon Seman, Richard Gosselyn, and William Estfeld, Aldermen, and John Brokley and William Milreth, the Sheriffs; and afterwards by William Crowmere, John Michell, Henry Frowyk, Thomas Wandesford, and Nicholas Wottone, &c. [*sic*].

Novum opus Guyhalde.

21 Jan., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425-6], ordinance by John Coventre, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, that all fees, fines, &c., granted during the Mayoralty of John Michell for the work of the Guildhall until Michaelmas, 1426, shall be continued for one year.

6 April, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], ordinance that the same shall be continued until Michaelmas, 1428.

Fo. 37 b.
Acquitance fait par le Mair as merchantz des villes Damieux Corby et Neell.

Acquittance under the Mayoralty seal for the sum of £4 13*s.* 4*d.* from the merchants of Corbi, Amyas, and Neel, in part payment of the sum of 50 marks due from them to the Mayor under a "composition" made between the said towns and the City.[2] Dated 8 Feb., 1425[6].

Custodia Joh'is filii Roberti Eland nup' civis et pannar' London'.

28 Feb., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425-6], the guardianship of John, son of Robert Eland, late draper, together with his patrimony, committed by John Coventre, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Thomas Chymbeham, cutler, for a term of four years. Sureties, viz., Gilbert Page, cook, Michael Salman, "steynour,"[3] Henry Fansted, skinner.

[1] It is difficult to understand how John Symond could have been Recorder at or about this time, seeing that John Fray is recorded as filling that office both in Oct., 1425 (*supra*, p. 48), and in Sept., 1426 (*infra*, p. 54). Symond is recorded (Journal 2, fo. 77 or 86) as having been elected on *Monday*, 22 Oct. [5 Henry VI. ?]. He was probably elected on 22 Oct., 1426 (5 Henry VI.), although that day fell on *Tuesday*, as correctly recorded in the next entry in the Journal. He was present in his capacity of Recorder at the election of Sheriffs which took place in Sept. 1427 (*infra*, p. 63).

[2] See 'Lib. Cust.,' i. 64-6.

[3] Painter-stainer.

Afterwards, viz., on the 12th Oct., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], the said orphan came and acknowledged satisfaction.

5 April, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], Thomas Broun, grocer, discharged by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio Thome Broun civis et Groceri London' ab assisis.*

The same day, Andrew Totyng, "stokfysshmongere," similarly discharged for like cause. *Exon'acio Andree Totyng ab assisis.*

Precept for watch to be kept on the nights and eves of St. John Bapt. [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], and for taking the customary precautions against fire. Dated 12 June, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426]. *Consimila*[sic] *billa miss' fuit cuil't Aldr'o.*

Letters patent appointing Thomas Walsyngham and William Estfeld to collect the subsidy of tonnage and poundage (viz., 3*s.* on every cask of wine and 12*d.* in the pound on other merchandise) in the Port of London granted by the last Parliament held at Westminster[1] for safeguarding the sea. Witness the King at Westminster, 24 April, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426]. Fo. 38. *Commissio ad levand subsidium tonagii et pondagii etc.*

28 April, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], came Robert Cristemesse, of co. Kent, text-writer, before John Coventre, the Mayor, and Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted to the freedom of the City in the Mistery of "Textwriters," *temp.* Henry Bartone, Mayor, and John Hille, Chamberlain, he had long since used, and was now using, the mistery or art of Drapers, and not that of Textwriters. He prayed therefore that he might be admitted to the freedom of the City in the Mistery of Drapers. His prayer granted. *Transmutacio Rob'ti Cristemesse ab Mistera de "Textwriters" in Misteram Pannar'.*

20 April, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], John Style, vintner, discharged by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio Joh'is Stile ab assisis.*

14 May, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], came John Wynne, draper, before John Coventre, the Mayor, and Aldermen in the Guildhall Chamber, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Mistery of Drapers, and sworn when William Staundone was Mayor and Stephen Fo. 38 b. *Transmutacio Joh'is Wynne ab Mistera Pannar in Misteram Aurifabr'.*

[1] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 276.

Speleman was Chamberlain, viz., on the 14th May, 16 Richard II. [A.D. 1393], he had long time past used, and was now using, the mistery of Goldsmiths, as the Masters of the said Mistery testify. He prays therefore that he may be admitted into the freedom of the City in the said Mistery. His prayer granted.

Acquietanc' de l marc' fact' per Joh'em Coventre Maiorem mercatorib' de Amias.

17 June, 1426, acquittance under the Mayoralty seal for 50 marks paid by John Wally, merchant of Amiens, due from the merchants of Amiens, Corby, and Neell to the Mayor for the time being, pursuant to a "composition" made between them.

Exon'acio Joh'is Snappe ab assisis.

20 June, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], John Snappe, skinner, discharged by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Proclamacio.

Proclamation forbidding hostelers and others to keep open house after 10 o'clock at night on the eves of St. John Bapt. [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], or to sell wine, beer, or victual before 6 o'clock on the following morning. [No date.]

Exoneracio Georgii Benet allutarii ab assisis.

4 July, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], George Benet, cordwainer, discharged by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 39.

Masters of Misteries sworn.

Glasyers: John Wyttelesey, John Greylond, sworn 22 Sept., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425].

Shethers: William Gilbert, Ralph Sandone, sworn 4 Oct., the same year.

Fullers and *Frisers*:[1] John Felton, Thomas Hull, John Campedene, sworn 19 Dec., the same year.

Cooks: Robert Kyng, Thomas Gerard, John Hardyng, John Woderove, sworn 23 Dec., the same year.

Lorimers: Thomas Kyng, Nicholas Fuller, John Medrest, sworn 3 July, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426].

Coupers: John Broun, John Trendeler, sworn 11 July, the same year.

[1] Makers of "frise" or napped cloth. Cf. Stat. 8 Eliz. cap. vii., "An Act touching Drapers, Cottoners and Frizers of Shrewsbury."

Text-writers and *Limners:* Peter Biltone, Gilbert A Miltone, sworn 22 July, the same year.

Lynnynwevers: John Staumford, William Edward, sworn 17 July, the same year.

Lethersellers: John Fyssh, John Arnold.....[*blank*].

Juynours: John Derk, John Welles, sworn 21 Aug., the same year.

Concess' co'is soli fact' exec' R. Whityngton' in escambium pro alio solo quod fuit ipsius Ric'i.

The following grant was made on petition of John Coventre, John Carpenter, and William Grove, executors of the will of Richard Whityngtone :—

Whereas the executors of Richard Whityngtone have granted certain parcels of land for the enlargement and improvement of the high street of Bassieshawe, near the tenement formerly belonging to Simon Fraunceys and the tenement which the said executors lately bought of John Padyngtone—there was granted in exchange, on the 27th Sept., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and the Commonalty, to the said executors, and at their request, a parcel of the common soil of the City in the same vicinity, to hold the same to them, their heirs and assigns for ever.

Disposicio nove librarie ad Guyhaldam concess' exec' R. Whityngtone et W. "Byry."

The same day it was granted by the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty that the new house or library which the said executors and the executors of William Bury lately made near the Guildhall, and the custody of the same, together with the chambers built under the same, be at the disposal and orders of the said executors, so that everything and anything that they may think fit to be ordained therein, or touching books to be placed or other things to be done there, shall be done and executed in such a way as if ordered by the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty on their own authority, or by authority of the liberties of the City, without any reclaim or opposition.[1]

Fo. 39 b.

Exon'acio Joh'is Bartheu turnour ab assisis.

2 Aug., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], John Bartheu [Bartholomeu ?], "turnour," discharged by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

[1] Printed in Price's 'Hist. Account of the Guildhall,' p. 127.

Exon'acio Joh'is Benet webbe ab assisis.

14 Aug., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], John Benet, "webbe,"[1] similarly discharged for like cause.

Exon'acio Thome Cressy irmonger ab assisis.

23 Aug., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], Thomas Cressy, "irmonger," similarly discharged for like cause.

Electio Vicecomitum London'.

Saturday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], in the presence of John Coventre, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, John Michell, John Reynwell, John Gedney, John Perneys, Ralph Bartone, Robert Tatersall, John Welles, [William] Estfeld, Nicholas James, John Bithewater, Simon Seman, Thomas Wandesford, and John Brokle, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs—Robert Arnold, grocer, was elected one of the Sheriffs for the year ensuing by the Mayor, and John Higham, draper, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Bederenden, draper, was elected Chamberlain; Robert Colbrok, "irmonger," and John Trymnell, mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and John Welles and Robert Tatersall, Aldermen, William Westone, draper, John Olney, mercer, Everard Flete, mercer, and John Femell, draper, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the above Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Electio Joh'is Reynwell in Maiorem London'.

Sunday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], after celebration of Mass in the Guildhall Chapel, and in the presence of John Coventre, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, Thomas Knolles, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Cauntbrigge, John Michell, John Gedney, John Reynwell, Ralph Bartone, John Perneys, Robert Whitingham, [Robert] Tatersall, Nicholas James, John Bithewater, William Estfeld, John Welles, Richard

[1] Weaver.

Gosselyn, Thomas Wandesford, John Brokle, and Robert Otle, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing—John Reynwell was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 40.

Statutes made at the Parliament which sat at Leicester, 18 Feb., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425-6].[1]

Fo. 40 b. *Custodia l marc' pertin' Nich'o uni filior' Thome Petwardyn commissa Will'o "Norhampton."*

8 Feb., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426-7], came Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," administrator of the goods of Thomas Mayneld, late grocer, and delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, a sum of money which the said Thomas had held in trust for Nicholas, son of Thomas Petwardyn, fishmonger.

Afterwards, viz., on the 18th Feb., the money was delivered by John Reynwell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and the aforesaid Chamberlain, to William Northampton, draper, to whom the said Nicholas had become apprenticed.

Afterwards, viz., on the 16th Oct., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], came the above Nicholas, being of full age, and acknowledged satisfaction for his property.

Corpus cum causa pro Radulpho Holland.

Writ of *habeas corpus cum causa* to the Sheriffs touching Ralph Holland, "taillour," a prisoner. Witness the King at Westminster, 8 Oct., 5 Henry V. [A.D. 1426].

Returnum eiusdem.

Return made to the above writ by William Melreth and John Broklee, the Sheriffs, to the effect that whereas at a Court of the lord the King, held at the Guildhall by John Coventre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, on Tuesday the 8th Oct., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], it was decreed that former ordinances touching those who had a right to be present at elections of Mayors and Sheriffs by virtue of their being sum-

[1] 'Stat. at Large,' i. 532-4. In the Letter-Book, cap. ii. is entered after caps. iii., iv., and v. This Parliament came to be known as the Parliament of "bats" or bludgeons, from the weapons secretly carried by the supporters of the rival parties of Beaufort and Gloucester. Gregory's 'Chron.,' p. 160. Amundesham, vol. i., Introd., p. xxiii n.

moned should continue to be observed, the above Ralph Holland had wantonly declared that such ordinances were fabrications, and had threatened Thomas Coke with violence. Whereupon in due course he had been arrested and committed to prison until he should find surety for keeping the peace.

Fo. 41. Thursday, 13 Dec., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425], John Tonard, baker, arrested and brought before John Coventre, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, William Crowmere, Henry Bartone, William Sevenoke, William Cauntbrigge, John Michell, John Gedney, John Perneis, Ralph Barton, John Welles, Robert Whityngham, Henry Frowik, Robert Tatersale, William Estfeld, and Richard Gosselyn [Aldermen], and William Milreth and John Brokle, the Sheriffs, for exposing loaves of bread for sale which were deficient in weight. This being his first offence, and he being of good reputation, he was spared the punishment of the hurdle,[1] and was discharged with a caution.

Monday the eve of Christmas, the same year, the above John Tonard was again arrested, and brought before John Coventre, the Mayor, John Fray, the Recorder, Thomas Fauconer, Ralph Bartone, Robert Whityngham, John Welles, Robert "Tatersaill," William Estfeld, John Bithewater, Henry Frowyk, John Perneys, Thomas Wandesford, [and] Symon Seman [Aldermen], for a similar offence, and being convicted was condemned to the punishment of the hurdle.

Fo. 41 b. Grant by John Gedney, the Mayor, and Commonalty to Richard Bamme, son of Margaret Phelipot,[2] of the reversion of a shop in Briggestrete, in the parish of St. Magnus near London Bridge, formerly granted by the said Margaret to Robert Gilmyn, *alias* Ridere, fishmonger, for the term of her life, with remainder to the Mayor and Commonalty; to hold the same (after the death of the said Margaret) to the said

[1] Cf. 'Calendar Letter-Book A,' pp. 120–1; 'Lib. Cust.,' i. 292.

[2] Possibly the widow of the well-known Sir John Phelipot (who died 25 May, 1384), and formerly wife of John Berlyngham ('Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 49). How she became connected with the Bamme family is not clear. Cf. Hust. Roll 157 (59) (60).

Richard Bamme for a term of forty years, at an annual rent of 33*s.* 4*d.* Dated 6 Aug., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].

10 Oct., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], Ralph Holand, executor of the will of Isabella, late wife of Thomas Bridlyngton, delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, a sum of money, silver plate, &c., bequeathed by the said Isabella to Richard her son.

Afterwards, viz., on the 26th Sept., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], the said Chamberlain delivered the money and goods to the said Richard.

10 Oct., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], the above Ralph Holand likewise delivered to the Chamberlain money and goods bequeathed to William, another son of the said Isabella.

Afterwards, viz., on the 28th May, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], the money and goods were delivered by John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to the above William.

Fo. 42. *Br'e d'ni Regis proclamand' quoddam statutum tempore E. fil' R' H. factum pro conservacione pacis.*

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation of certain provisions for the preservation of the peace enacted by Statute of Winchester in the reign of King Edward I.,[1] and confirmed and enlarged anno 7 Richard II.[2] Witness the King at Westminster, 16 Oct., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426].

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation of certain provisions for the preservation of the peace enacted by statute made at Westminster anno 13 Henry IV.,[3] and confirmed and enlarged by the Parliament at Leicester, anno 2 Henry V.[4] Witness the King at Westminster, 20 Oct., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426].

20 Feb., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426-7], in a congregation of John Reynwelle, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty assembled in the Guildhall for Common Council, it was agreed (*inter alia*) that John Pencrich, Esquire to the Mayor, should hold the house or mansion over the lower gate of the

[1] Stat. 13 Edw. I. [A.D. 1285], cap. i.

[2] Stat. 7 Ric. II. [A.D. 1383], cap. vi.

[3] Stat. 13 Henry IV. [A.D. 1411], cap. vii.

[4] Stat. 2 Henry V. [A.D. 1414], cap. viii.

Guildhall which John Marchaunt lately inhabited, during good behaviour in his office, without paying any rent, &c.

Fo. 42 b. Statute 13 Henry IV. [A.D. 1411], cap. vii., touching commissions to inquire into riots, &c., rehearsed.[1]

Fo. 43. 30 May, 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], came Richard Osbarn, one of the executors of Thomas Brydlyngtone, late tailor, and delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, the sum of £100 bequeathed by the said Thomas to William his son, who was afterwards put as apprentice with Thomas Osbarn, mercer, for a term of eight years.

Afterwards, viz., on the 1st July, 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], the above money was entrusted to the said Thomas Osbarn for the said orphan. Sureties, viz., John Whatele, Thomas Bataille, John Wasshburn, mercers, and John Carpenter, junior.

Exon'acio custodie predicte. Afterwards, viz., on the 8th May, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], came the above Thomas Osbarn before Robert Ottele, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and delivered the above money to the said William, who acknowledged satisfaction.

Fo. 43 b. *Exon'acio Joh'is Sabyn Tinctoris ab assisis.* 22 Nov., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], John Sabyn, dyer, discharged by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Will'i Sperhauke Groceri ab assisis. 28 Nov., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], William Sperhauke, grocer, similarly discharged for like cause.

Presentacio d'ni Will'i Bovetone capell'i ad Cantar' in eccl'ia Sc'i Pauli London' pro a'ia Henr' de Guldeford. Presentation by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's of Sir William Bovetone, chaplain, for admission to the chantry founded at the altar of the Apostles in St. Paul's Church for the soul of Sir Henry de Guldeford called "le Marescall," clerk. Dated 25 Nov., A.D. 1426.

Admissio Will'mi Cheyne militis in libertatem civitatis London'. Be it remembered that on.....[*blank*], anno 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426?], Sir William Cheyne, Knt., Chief Justice of the King's Bench, with the consent of John "Raynewelle," the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, was admitted into the freedom of the City in the Mistery of Mercery, and was sworn according

[1] See Stat. 2 Hen. V. cap. viii., 'Statutes at Large,' i. 498-500.

to custom, provided always that the said William Cheyne should be free to discharge the duties of his office, notwithstanding his admission and oath, and should be spared watches, tallages, scot, lot, and other burdens attached to the freedom of the City.

Fo. 44. *Custodia puer' Will'i Walderne nup' civis et merceri London'.*

Another copy of proceedings touching the guardianship of the children of William Walderne, late mercer, as recorded *supra*, p. 47.

Fo. 44 b. *Consi'le mandatum missum fuit cuil't Aldermanno.*

Precept to the Aldermen to hold their several Wardmotes, and to make return to the Grand Court to be held on Monday after the Epiphany [6 Jan.]; to take steps for safeguarding, cleansing, and lighting the streets, and for the election of honest and discreet persons to sit in the Common Council. Dated under the seal of the Mayoralty, 3 Dec. [A.D. 1426].

A recital of the Statute of Winchester,[1] which is to be strictly observed, and which the Sheriffs are enjoined to proclaim in every hundred, vill, and market four times a year.

Fo. 45. *Exon'acio Joh'is Merssh fruterer ab assisis.*

10 March, 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426-7], John Mersshe, "fruterer," discharged by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to failing sight and deafness.

Hokkyng defenduz.

Proclamation to be made forbidding the enforcement of "hokkyng" on Monday and Tuesday next, called "les hokkedays."

Fo. 45 b. *Judicium Rog'i Laurence procappis fullat'.*

Roger Laurence, "hurer," attached to answer the Commonalty on a charge of having caused eleven dozen and two caps called "nightcappes" and one long cap to be fulled at a mill contrary to the ordinance. The said Roger appeared and declared that the said caps had been properly fulled under foot and not at a mill, and asked for a jury, and so also did Alexander Anne, who prosecuted for the City. Thereupon a precept given to Thomas Donyngtone, one of the Serjeants of the Chamber, to summon a jury. The jurors, viz., Stephen Roo, Richard Herlawe, Thomas Kyng, Simon Wayte, Robert Brampthan, Simon Wastell, John Valentyn, Thomas Spicer,

[1] Stat. 13 Edw. I., A.D. 1285.

Thomas Flete, Robert Andrewe, John Westone, John Waltham, Thomas Wottone, Richard Bernard, Thomas Taillour, and William Fouler, cappers, find that the caps were falsely fulled at a mill. The caps are therefore adjudged to be forfeited, and the said Roger to pay 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Chamberlain.

Consi'le mandatum missum fuit cuil't Aldr'o.

Precept to the Aldermen to cause a sufficient armed watch to be kept in their several Wards on the nights and eves of St. John Bapt. [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], and to take the usual precautions against fire. Dated 7 June, 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427].

Proclamacio erga Nat' Sc'i Joh'is Bap'te et Festum Ap'lor'.

Proclamation to be made forbidding hostelers and others to keep open house after 10 o'clock at night on the eves of the above Feasts, or to sell wine, beer, or victual before 6 o'clock on the following morning, under penalty of imprisonment and fine.

Exon'acio Ric'i Grove armurer ab assisis.

21 June, 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], Richard Grove, "armurer," discharged by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 46.

Acquietanc' facta per Joh'em Reynwelle Maiorem et mercator' Damyas Corby et Neell.

Acquittance by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, for the sum of 50 marks received from John Akalyan, merchant of Amiens, by virtue of a "composition" made between the City of London and the merchants of Amiens, Corby, and Neel. Dated 21 June, A.D. 1427.

Presentacio d'ni David "Fleure" capellani ad Cantariam in Capella sup' ossamenta mortuor' in cimiterio eccl'ie S'ci Pauli London'.

Presentation by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, to William [Grey], Bishop of London, of Sir David "Flure," of the diocese of St. David, for admission to the chantry founded over the charnel-house of St. Paul's for the soul of Roger Beyveyn,[1] vacant by the death of Sir John Briggewater. Dated under the seal of the Mayoralty, 21 Aug., A.D. 1427.

Exon'acio Joh'is More ab assisis.

20 Aug., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], John More, carpenter, discharged by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to bodily infirmities.

[1] See his will, proved and enrolled in the Husting in 1278. 'Cal. of Wills,' i. 29. Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 91.

Transmutacio Rad'i Stoke ab officio Attornator' in misteram Grossarior'.

3 Sept., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], came Ralph Stoke, attorney, before John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and Aldermen, and showed that, whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the office of Attorneys, and sworn during the Mayoralty of William Waldern and the Chamberlainship of John Proffit, viz., on the 13th March, 14 Henry IV. [A.D. 1412–13], he had long used, and was now using, the Mistery or art of Grocers, as many men of that Mistery testified. He therefore prayed that he might be admitted into the freedom of the City in that Mistery. His prayer granted.

Br'e pro Parliamento.

Writ to the Sheriffs for the election of four citizens to attend a Parliament to be held at Westminster in the quinzaine of St. Michael [29 Sept.][1] next, and to make a return of the names of the electors and elected in indentures. Witness the King at Westminster, 15 July, 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427].[2]

Fo. 46 b.

Exon'acio Ricardi Aleyn ab assisis.

13 Sept., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], Richard Aleyn, brewer, discharged by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Ordinacio mister' de Joynours.

To the court of the lord the King, held in the Chamber of the Guildhall,[3] before John Reynwell, the Mayor, John Symond, the Recorder, Nicholas Wottone, William Cauntbrigge, John Michell, John Coventre, Robert Tatersale, Ralph Bartone, Simon Seman, John Perneys, John Brokle, Robert Ottele, Aldermen, and John Hyham, one of the Sheriffs, came the Masters and good folk of the Mistery of Joynours, and complained that many journeymen (*allowes*), foreigners and aliens, were engaged in the mistery who worked more for their own private gain than for public benefit, and only by the day, to the great hurt of poor folk of the said Mistery. They prayed, therefore,

[1] Parliament met on the 13th Oct. and was prorogued on the 8th Dec. It sat again on the 20th Jan., 1428, and continued until the 25th March. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 316, 317, 318.

[2] The return is not recorded in the Letter-Book, but the election is to be found in Journal 2 (fo. 99 b), where it is recorded that on the 16th Sept. following John Michell and John Welles, Aldermen, were elected to Parliament by the Mayor and Aldermen, and Walter Gawtron and William Melreth were elected by the Commonalty.

[3] The Court sitting in the outer Chamber, or Mayor's Court. See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 80.

that such journeymen who wished to work in the mistery should work with freemen of the Mistery by the year, half year, or quarter, and not by the day, and that no one of the Mistery should take such journeymen for less time, under penalty. Their petition granted.

Fo. 47. *Presentacio d'ni Ric'i Bragg' capellani ad eccl'iam Sc'e Margarete Patyns Lond'.*

Letter from John Reynwell, the Mayor, and Commonalty to William [Grey], Bishop of London, presenting Sir Richard Bragg',[1] chaplain, for admission as Rector of the church of St. Margaret Patyns, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Giles. Dated under the seal of the Mayoralty, 2 Sept., A.D. 1427.

De pakkatura et pond' auri de Veniciis etc.

26 Aug., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], ordinance by John Reynwell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to the effect that thenceforth all gold imported into the City from Venice, Cyprus, and Janua be of one consistent kind and goodness throughout, and not packed deceitfully, so that the pound of Venetian gold no longer contain $11\frac{1}{4}$ ounces and the pound of Janua and Cyprus $10\frac{1}{4}$ ounces Troy weight, under penalty of forfeiture.

Exon'acio Hugonis Neel ab assisis.

20 Oct., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], Hugh Neel, brewer, discharged by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Will'mi Swetecok ab assisis.

25 Oct., the same year, William Swetecok, of co. Staff., similarly discharged for like cause.

Fo. 47 b. *Ordinacio Mistere de Talughchaundellers.*

12 Sept., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], came the Masters and Wardens of the Mistery of Talughchaundellers before the Mayor and Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and prayed that they might be allowed to receive a portion of the fines and forfeitures for defaults discovered by them in exercising their right of search and assay, which hitherto had been wholly paid over to the Chamberlain for the time being. Thereupon it was ordained that thenceforth they should receive one-third of such fines, &c., for their pains.

[1] In the will of David Turbelvyle, vintner, enrolled in the Husting in July, 1442 (see 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 498), the name of the Rector of St. Margaret Patyns is given both as "Bragge" and "Brak." Hennessy ('Novum Rep.,' p. 286) gives his name as Richard "Drake or Aston."

Custodia filiar' Ricardi Hervy civis et m'ceri London' etc.

4 May, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], the guardianship of Elizabeth, Alice, and Matilda, daughters of Richard Hervy, late mercer, together with their patrimony and money accruing to them on the death of Margery their sister, committed by John Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Robert Large, mercer. Sureties, viz., John Whatele, Thomas Bataille, John Chirche, and John Wasshebourne, mercers.

Exon'acio Guydonis Terry ab assisis.

25 Oct., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], Guy Terry, baker, discharged by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Rad'i Bukberd lynenwebbe ab assisis.

26 Oct., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], Ralph Bukberd, "lynenwebbe," similarly discharged for like cause.

Fo. 48.

Eleccio Rob'ti Ottele et Henr' Frowyk vicecomitum.

Sunday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], in the presence of John Reynewelle, the Mayor, John Symond, the Recorder, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, John Coventre, John Gedney, John [*sic*][1] Gosselyn, John Perneys, Ralph Bartone, Robert Tatersale, William Estfeld, John Wellis, Thomas Wandesford, Nicholas James, Simon Seman, and John Brokle, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Robert Ottele, grocer, was elected one of the Sheriffs for the ensuing year by the Mayor, and Henry Frowyk, the other Sheriff, by the Commonalty.

The same day John Bederenden, draper, was elected Chamberlain; Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," and John Trymnell, mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; Robert Tatersale and William Estfeld, Aldermen, and Eborard Flete, mercer, John Femelle, draper, Walter Chertesey and Ralph Skynnard, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 282 n.

Eleccio Joh'is Gedeney Maioris Civitatis London'.

Monday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], in the presence of John Reynwelle, the Mayor, William Clerk the Prior of Christchurch, John Symond, the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Cauntbrigge, John Coventre, John Gedney, William Estfelde, Ralph Bartone, Robert Tatersale, John Perneis, Nicholas James, Richard Gosselyn, Simon Seman, Henry Frowik, Robert Ottele, Thomas Wandesford, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, John Gedney was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Custodia Thome filii Laurencii Van Gelder.

10 Sept., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], the guardianship of Thomas, son of Laurence van Gelder, late tailor, aged six years, together with his patrimony, committed to John Spenser (who married Margaret, the orphan's mother) for a term of seven years; after which time the money is to be delivered to the Chamberlain for the time being, together with mesne profits on reasonable account, that the same may be given to the orphan, if alive.

Fo. 48 b.

Custodia Will'mi filii Thome "Filkys" nup' civis et peautrer London'.

3 Sept., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], the guardianship of William, son of Thomas "Filkes," late "peautrer," together with his patrimony, and money arising from the various instruments used in his mistery,[1] committed by John Reynwelle, the Mayor, and Aldermen to William atte Lee, "peautrer," for a term of seven years, after which term the orphan's property, if he be still alive, is to be delivered into Court, to be disposed of according to the will of the testator. Sureties, viz., Hugh Game, "peautrer," and Saier Aker, grocer.

Afterwards, viz., on the 16th Aug., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], came the executors of the above Hugh Game and delivered the orphan's property to John Chichele, the Chamberlain.

[1] *Vide infra*, p. 65.

Consimile mandatum miss' cuil't Aldermanno.

Precept to the Aldermen to hold their several Wardmotes, and return such matters as they are themselves unable to remedy to the General Court to be held on Monday after the Feast of the Epiphany [6 Jan.]; that they take steps for safeguarding, cleaning, and lighting the streets, and cause a prescribed number of inhabitants of each Ward to be elected for a Common Council. Dated under the Mayoralty seal, 3 Dec. [A.D. 1427].

Custodia bonor' p'tin' Will'mo filio Thome Bridlyngtone.

20 May, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], the custody of the sum of £50 and divers goods, comprising a girdle harnessed with a buckle (*plusculo*), mordant (*mordaculo*),[1] and thirty-three silver bars (*stipis*), belonging to William, son of Thomas Bridlingtone, late tailor, committed to Richard Osbarn. Sureties, viz., John Welles, Robert Large, Thomas Bataille, and Thomas Osbarn, mercers.

Afterwards, viz., on the 28th May, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], came the above Richard Osbarn before Robert Ottele, the Mayor, and Aldermen, and delivered to the said orphan his property.

Fo. 49.

A schedule of goods—"mooldes toles and prentes"—partable between William Filkes, John Kirtiltone, Henry Spark, John Grace, William Heyward, John Segore, Alice Ade, James Quarry, and William Kent, the 10th Aug., 5 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], and their valuation. The goods comprise (*inter alia*) a small "chargeour moolde of bras," a "myddell plater

[1] *Pluscula* or *plustula* is interpreted by Mr. C. Trice Martin in his 'Record Interpreter' as "a buckle" (cf. "Pusculariі dicuntur Gallice *boucliers*," 'Dict. of John de Garlande,' Wright's 'Vocab.,' p. 123); and the same authority gives *mordaculum* as meaning the tongue of a buckle. The buckle of a girdle, however, is to be distinguished from the "mordaunt" or pendant which hung down from the centre knot. Thus Chaucer:—

"The Bokel of it was of stoon
* * *
The mordaunt, wrought in noble wyse
Was of stoon ful precious.
* *
The barres were of gold ful fyne
Upon a tissu of satyne."

'Romaunt of the Rose' (ed. Skeat), ll. 1085, 1094-5.

See also Prof. Skeat's note on "mordaunt," *ibid.*, pp. 425-6. The bars were fixed transversely to the satin tissue of the girdle, and perforated to receive the tongue of the buckle.

moolde of bras," a "small plater moolde," a "grete disshe moolde," a "counterfete disshe molde," a "myddel disshe moold," a "grete saucer moolde," a "holwe plater moolde," a "newe chargeour moolde," 14 "pryntes," 7 "peir clammes,"[1] a "whele an arbe and a tour,"[2] a "peire clippyng sheres," a "burnessher," 8 "turning hokes," 4 "anfeldes"[3] and 2 "swagers,"[4] 7 "clene hamers,"[5] 2 "scoryng flotes," 2 "chesels" and a pair of "liftyngtonges," 2 "belies,"[6] 2 "castyng pannes," a "steryng staf," 4 "sowdyng irens" and 3 "castyngstokkes," 4 "strakestones," a "peir vambras," a "peire rerebras," a "peire gloves of plates," 2 "besagues,"[7] a "pollax," a "bore spere," &c.

Fo. 49 b. Be it remembered that whereas John Leche, late "ismonger," left by will enrolled in the Husting[8] to a certain chaplain for celebrating in the church of St. Michael de Cornhill, for the good of his soul, the souls of Thomas le Northerne, late "tymbermongere," and Alice his mother, a yearly sum of 6 marks issuing from tenements which he had by devise of the said Thomas; which tenements afterwards belonged to John Clenhond, and on his death, and the death of John, Thomas, and William his sons without heirs, were sold by William Symmes, his executor, to William Edward, salter, and other feoffees, the proceeds being devoted to pious uses pursuant to the aforesaid will; and whereas the above bequest had been declared to be invalid at law—nevertheless the said William Symmes, the

[1] Clamps?

[2] Apparently, constituent parts of a turning lathe.

[3] Anvils.

[4] Tools used by blacksmiths and other workers in metal for shaping their work.

[5] "Cleue hamers" (claw-hammers)?

[6] Bellows?

† [7] Double-edged axes, used by carpenters. Lat. *bisacuta*. See Roquefort, *s.v.* "Besagüe."

[8] The date of enrolment is here given as Monday after the Feast of St. Barnabas [11 June], 23 Edw. III. [A.D. 1349], whereas it appears on the Husting Roll as enrolled on Monday after the Feast of St. Mathias [24 Feb.] in that year. (See 'Cal. of Wills,' i. 524.) There was a John Leche whose will was enrolled on Monday *before* the Feast of St. Barnabas, anno 23 Edward III., but he was a fishmonger of Bridge Street, and a different individual ('Cal. of Wills,' i. 584). The same discrepancy occurs in Letter-Book G, fo. xliii b.

vendor, and William Edward, the purchaser of the said tenements, with the consent of the Mayor, Recorder, and many Aldermen, for conscience' sake gave to Master Henry Whitcherche, the Rector of the above church, and parishioners of the same, the sum of 100 marks for the uses aforesaid. [No date.]

12 Oct., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], bond entered into by John Lynge, Elias Twyer, Alexander Childe, William Parker, Thomas Baker, William Twyer, and Robert Parkeman (or Parkemant), drapers, that they will invest the above money for the same uses.

Fo. 50. *Custodia quadraginta librar' p'tinent' Thome filio Ric'i Withihale nup' civis et Aurifabri London'.*

16 Dec., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], the custody of £40 belonging to Thomas, son of Richard Withihale, late goldsmith, committed by John Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Withehale, brother of the said Thomas, during his minority. Sureties, viz., John Biernes, Robert Doun, and Peter Brendewode, goldsmiths, and Reginald Wellam, draper.

Custodia £xxxv xs. vjd. p'tin' Margarete Roos.

22 Dec., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], the custody of a sum of money belonging to Margaret, daughter of Elias Davy (her brother Elias Davy having died), committed by the same to her said father, the said money having formed part of the estate of Richard,[1] son of Richard Roos, late mercer.

Exon'acio Joh'is Draper ab assisis.

12 March, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427-8], John Draper, called Essex, "smyth," discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 50 b. *Presentacio Rob'ti Laghtone capellani in unam cantariam Guyhald'.*

Letter from John Gedney, the Mayor, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to William [Grey], Bishop of London, presenting Robert Laghtone, chaplain, for admission to one of the chantries founded by Adam Fraunceys and Henry Frowyk in the chapel of St. Mary near the Guildhall, vacant by the death of Richard Danyell. Dated 18 Feb., A.D. 1427.

Exon'acio Joh'is West ab assisis.

5 March, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427-8], John West, "stokfisshmonger," discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

[1] Recorded here as also being a brother of Elias and Margaret Davy!

Novum opus Guyhald'. 12 Feb., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427-8], ordinance by John Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, in their full and Common Council, that all fines, fees, &c., formerly devoted to the work of the Guildhall should continue to be levied for the same purpose for two years from the Feast of St. Michael [29 Sept.] next.

Recommendacio Ducisse Glouc'. Be it remembered that on the 8th March, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427-8], the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty approached the Lords Spiritual [and] Temporal and the Commons of the realm in the Parliament then held at Westminster, and by the mouth of John Symond, the Recorder of the City, declared the lamentable state to which the lady Duchess of Gloucester,[1] Countess of Hainault, Holland, &c., had been brought by some of her enemies, and undeservedly so, as plainly appeared from her sorrowful letters addressed to the said Mayor and Commonalty; they therefore prayed the said Lords and Commons of the realm to take into consideration the manner in which the countries of Hainault, Holland, and Zealand had ever been friendly to English merchants, and how the lady herself had been brought to England and honourably treated by the late King and made godmother to the present King,[2] and to grant her some relief and assistance, the petitioners themselves promising to assist in the matter as the said Lords and Commons might direct. And so, permission being granted, they withdrew, &c.[3]

Fo. 51. Letter from John Gedney, under the Mayoralty seal, admitting Sir John Ruschebroke, chaplain in the diocese of Norwich, to

[1] Jacqueline, sometime wife of John, Duke of Brabant, from whom she succeeded in obtaining a questionable divorce at the hands of Benedict XIII. in order to be married to Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester.

[2] She arrived in England in 1421, the year of the birth of Prince Henry, and stood sponsor for him. Walsingham, ii. 342. Cf. Kingsford's 'Chronicles,' p. 128.

[3] This petition does not appear to be recorded on the Rolls of Parliament. From other sources we learn that a deputation of women from the City appeared before Parliament with a letter complaining of Gloucester's desertion of his wife and of her imprisonment by the Duke of Burgundy. Amundesham (Rolls Series, No. 28), i. 20.

the chantry founded in the church of St. Mary Somerset, near Brokenwharf, for the souls of John de Gyldesburgh, Sir Peter de Gildesburgh, Sir John Burton, late Rector of the said church, and others, the said Sir John Ruschebroke having been elected and presented to the said chantry, then vacant by the death of Sir John Writhe,[1] by the reverend father in Christ John, Bishop of Dromore,[2] then Rector of the said church, and by John [Mowbray], Duke of Norfolk, Elizabeth Wilford and John Bate, parishioners of the same. Dated 20 March, A.D. 1428 [*sic*].

Hokkyng defenduz.

Proclamation to be made forbidding the enforcement of "hokkyng" on "les hokkedays."

Acquitanc' fact' per Joh'em Gedney Maiorem mercator' Damyas Corby et Neell.

Acquittance by John Gedney, the Mayor, and Aldermen for various sums of money received in 1425 from John Galet,[3] John Stormorth, and others, on behalf of merchants of Amyens, in respect of the yearly payment of 50 marks under the "composition" made between the City of London and the merchants of Amyens, Corby, and Neel. Dated 20 March, 6 Henry VI., A.D. 1428 [*sic*].

Exon'acio Alexand' Hened ab assisis.

19 May, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], Alexander Hened, "wexchaundeler," discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Consimil' billa miss' fuit cuil't Aldermanno.

Precept to the Aldermen to keep an armed watch in their several Wards on the nights and eves of St. John Bapt. [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], and cause a vessel of water to be placed before every house in case of fire. Dated 5 June, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].

Fo. 51 b.

Ordinacio de Anguill' recent' et de Tench' venient' de partib' transmarinis ad civitatem London' etc.

13 Feb., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427-8], ordinance by the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Commonalty, in full and Common Council assembled, that no eels from beyond the sea be exposed for sale until they have been sorted by the Mayor or his

[1] He had been appointed to the chantry in June, 1407. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 59.

[2] Sometime Rector of Stisted, co. Essex. By his will he desired to be buried in the chancel of the church of St. Mary Somerset. It appears doubtful, however, if there was at this time a Bishop of Dromore of the name of John. (See Hennessy, 'Nov. Rep.,' p. cxliv.)

[3] *Vide supra*, p. 45.

deputies into three kinds, viz., the larger kind called "Stobel eel," the middle called "Shast eel," and the smaller called "Pympernel," as was formerly ordained when Robert Chichele was Mayor;[1] and further, that they should be sold only by weight in the presence of an officer appointed by the Mayor, in the vessels which brought them and at prices prescribed. A similar ordinance was at the same time made touching "Tenche."

14 Dec., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], the guardianship of Thomas and Agnes, children of Thomas Mountgomery, late draper, together with their patrimony, committed by John Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, for a term of five years to Nicholas Stucle, Knt., who had married Agnes, the orphans' mother. Sureties, viz., John Pattisle, goldsmith, and Thomas Suttone, tailor.

Afterwards, viz., on the 12th June, 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], came the above Agnes, being then of full age, before William Gregory, the Mayor, and Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for her patrimony.

Fo. 52.

Custodia puer' Simonis Herward nuper civis et mercer' London'.

12 May, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], the guardianship of John and Alice, children of Simon Herward, late mercer, together with their patrimony and property accruing to them by the decease of Margaret their sister,[2] committed by John Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Admond, mercer, who had married Johanna, widow of the said Simon; to hold the same in trust for the said orphans for a term of five years. Sureties, viz., Eborard Flete, John Pydmell, John Fauntleroy, and William Prentys, mercers.

Exon'acio Martini Kelum ab assisis.

26 June, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], Martin Kelum, of co. Linc., discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Joh'is Lynne civis et pelliparius [sic] *London'.*

16 Oct., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], John Lynne, skinner, similarly discharged for like cause.

[1] In Feb., 1412. See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 101.

[2] Cf. *supra*, p. 11.

Fo. 52 b. *Com'issio de sing'lis eccl'iis p'ochialib' et feod' militum ad levand' subsidia.*

Letters patent appointing Simon Seman, John Perneys, Robert Wedyngton, Richard Coventre, Thomas Catworth, and Ralph Skynnard to be Commissioners for levying in the City the money granted in the Parliament held at Westminster in the quinzaine of St. Michael last—viz., 2*s.* from all householders in every parish having ten inhabited houses, of each City and Borough, where the church is of the annual value of 20*s.*, and so *pro rata* on an ascending scale; and also the sum of 6*s.* 8*d.* from every owner of lands and tenements of the value of a whole knight's fee, and so *pro rata* on a descending scale to a quarter of a knight's fee. Witness the King at Westminster, 6 April, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].[1]

Fos. 53–53 b.

5 May, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], inquest taken before John Perneys, Simon Seman, and other Commissioners aforesaid by oath of Simon Sewale, William Westone, Thomas Bataille, John Melborne, Philip Malpas, Clement Lyffyn, Thomas Daunt, John Femelle, Hugh Dyke, John Abbot, John Aleyn, Thomas Selowe, Simon Eyer, John Olney, Walter Chartesey, William Edward, Richard Nordone, Ralph Silkestone, Thomas Garbolt, Thomas Duffehous, John Edward, Thomas Bernewelle, John Bacon, John Chirche, and John Saykyn, who declare the following churches to be of the utmost yearly value as follows,[2] viz.:—

St. Botolph without Aldrichegate, 40 marks.
St. Anne, in Ward of Aldrichegate, 12 marks.
St. John Zakarie, in same Ward, 20 marks.
St. Leonard, in same Ward, 10 marks.
St. Mary de Stanyng, in same Ward, 6 marks.
St. Andrew, in Ward of Aldgate, £14 13*s.* 4*d.*
St. Katherine de Crychirche, in same Ward, 20 marks.
St. Katherine Colman, in same Ward, £4 13*s.* 4*d.*
St. Michael, in Ward of Bassingeshawe, £20.
St. Botolph, in Ward of Billingesgate, £32.

[1] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 318; Amundesham, i. 21.

[2] Stow ('Survey,' ed. Kingsford, ii. 138-43) gives a list of parish churches under their several Wards, but it occasionally differs from the list here set out.

St. George, in same Ward, 12 marks.
St. Andrew, in same Ward, 15 marks.
St. Margaret Patyns, in same Ward, 5 marks.
St. Mary at Hille, in same Ward, £25 6*s.* 8*d.*
St. Botolph without Bisshopesgate, in the suburb, 25 marks.
St. Ethelburga, in same Ward, £9.
St. Helen, in same Ward, £9 13*s.* 4*d.*
All Hallows de Graschirche, in same Ward,[1] £18.
St. Christopher, in Ward of Bradstrete, £19 6*s.* 8*d.*
St. Bartholomew the little,[2] in same Ward, £20.
St. Benedict Fynke, in same Ward, £10 6*s.* 8*d.*
St. Peter,[3] in same Ward, £10.
All Hallows in the Wall, £9.
St. Martin Otewych, 16 marks 6*s.* 8*d.*
All Hallows, in Ward of Bredestret, 55 marks.
St. Mildred, in same Ward, £10 6*s.* 8*d.*
St. Augustine, in same Ward,[4] 25 marks.
St. Matthew, in same Ward,[5] 20 marks.
St. John Evang., in same Ward, £12.
St. Margaret,[6] in same Ward, 20 marks.
St. Martin Orgar, in Ward of Candelwykstrete, 20 marks.
St. Clement, in same Ward,[7] £13 6*s.* 8*d.*
St. Michael de Crokydlane, in same Ward, £21.
St. Mary de Abchirche, in same Ward, £18.
St. Andrew, in Ward of Castelbaynard, £10.
St. Benedict,[8] in same Ward, £9.
St. Gregory,[9] in same Ward, £20.
St. Mary Magdalen de Oldefisshstrete, in same Ward, 20 marks.

[1] Recorded by Stow (i. 202; ii. 139) as being in Lombard Street and Langborne Ward.
[2] Or St. Bartholomew by the Exchange.
[3] St. Peter the Poor.
[4] St. Augustine by St. Paul's Gate in Farringdon Ward Within (Stow, i. 323).
[5] St. Matthew, Friday Street, Farringdon Ward Within (*Id.*, i. 322).
[6] St. Margaret Moses.
[7] St. Clement, Eastcheap.
[8] St. Bennet, Paul's Wharf.
[9] St. Gregory by St. Paul's.

St. Laurence,[1] in Ward of Chepe, £40.

St. Mary de Arcubus,[2] in same Ward, 40 marks. Fo. 53 b.

All Hallows de Honylane, in same Ward, £10.

St. Mary de Colchirche, in same Ward, 20 marks.

St. Mildred,[3] in same Ward, £13.

St. Benedict Shorehog, in same Ward, £10.

St. Martin,[4] in same Ward, 20 marks.

St. Stephen, in Ward of Colmanstrete, £20.

St. Olave Jewry, in same Ward, £12.

St. Margaret in Lothebury, in same Ward, 24 marks.

St. Mary de Aldermarie Chirche, in Ward of Cordewanerstret, £22.

St. Antonin, in same Ward, £18.

St. Pancras, in same Ward,[5] 24 marks.

St. Michael, in Ward of Cornhill, £40.

St. Peter, in same Ward, £20.

St. Mary Magdalen,[6] in Ward of Crepulgate, £18.

St. Mary de Aldermanbury, in same Ward, 20 marks.

St. Michael in Hoggenlane, in same Ward, 21 marks.

St. Alban,[7] in same Ward, 20 marks.

St. Alphege,[8] in same Ward, 10 marks.

St. Olave in Silverstrete, in same Ward,[9] 40 (marks?).

St. Giles Without, in same Ward, £29.

St. Laurence, in Ward of Douegate, £7.

All Hallows,[10] in same Ward, 20 marks.

All Hallows the Great,[11] in same Ward, 40 marks.

St. Ewin,[12] in Ward of Farindon Within, £8 13*s.* 4*d.*

St. Nicholas,[13] in same Ward, £26 13*s.* 4*d.*

[1] St. Laurence Jewry.

[2] Stow (ii. 140) places St. Mary le Bow (or "New Mary Church," as erroneously styled by him) in Cordwainer Street Ward.

[3] In the Poultry.

[4] St. Martin Pomary, in Ironmonger Lane.

[5] Stow (ii. 140) places St. Pancras by Soper's Lane, in Cheap Ward.

[6] In Milk Street.

[7] Wood Street.

[8] London Wall.

[9] Recorded by Stow (ii. 141) as being in Aldersgate Ward.

[10] The Less or on the Cellars.

[11] Or at the Haywharf.

[12] Or St. Audoen.

[13] By the Shambles.

St. Martin,[1] in same Ward, 40 marks.
St. Faith, in same Ward, 20 marks.
St. Michael le Quern,[2] in same Ward, 25 marks.
St. Vedast, in same Ward, £40.
St. Peter in Chepe, in same Ward, £20.
St. Bride, in Ward of Farindone Without, £47 13*s.* 4*d.*
St. Dunstan, in same Ward, £26 16*s.* 8*d.*
St. Andrew,[3] in same Ward, £22 13*s.* 4*d.*
St. Sepulchre, in same Ward, £65.
All Hallows de Stanyng, in Ward of Langbourne, £6 13*s.* 4*d.*
St. Mary[4] de Fanchirche, in same Ward, £8.
St. Dionis,[5] in same Ward, £16.
St. Edmund,[6] in same Ward, £20.
St. Nicholas,[7] in same Ward, £10.
St. Mary Wolnoth, in same Ward, £18.
St. Mary atte Nax, in Ward of Lymestret, 6 marks.
St. Benedict de Graschirche, in Ward of Bridge, 20 marks.
St. Leonard in Estchep,[8] in same Ward, 40 marks.
St. Margaret, in same Ward, £20.
St. Magnus, in same Ward, £40.
St. Botolph,[9] in Ward of Portsoken, 20 marks.
St. Michael, in Ward of Quenehithe, 46 marks.
St. Mary Somersete, in same Ward, 18 marks.
St. Mary Montenhaute, in same Ward, £4.
St. Nicholas "Olove,"[10] in same Ward, £9.
St. Nicholas Coldabbey, in same Ward, £16.
St. Peter, in same Ward, 10 marks.
St. Olave,[11] in Ward of Tower, £10.
All Hallows,[12] in same Ward, £24.
St. Dunstan, in same Ward, 50 marks.

[1] Ludgate.
[2] Or atte Corn.
[3] Holborn.
[4] Otherwise known as St. *Gabriel* Fenchurch. (Stow, i. 200; ii. 139.)
[5] Backchurch.
[6] Lombard Street.
[7] Acon.
[8] St. Leonard *Milkchurch*, Fish Street Hill. (Stow, ii. 139.)
[9] Aldgate.
[10] Olave.
[11] Hart Street.
[12] Barking.

St. Martin, in Ward of Vintry, £11 6*s.* 8*d.*
St. Michael, in same Ward, £10.
St. Thomas, Ap., in same Ward, £8.
St. James, in same Ward, 20 marks.
Holy Trinity,[1] in same Ward, £10.
St. John, in Ward of Walbroke, 20 marks.
St. Mary de Bothehawe, in same Ward, 10 marks.
St. Swithin, in same Ward, 20 marks.
St. Stephen, in same Ward, 40 marks.
St. Mary,[2] in same Ward, 25 marks.

And there are no more parish churches in the City or suburbs, except the church of St. Augustine de Pappey within the City, in which parish there are not ten inhabitants who are householders.[3]

Fo. 54.

Securitas pro honesta custodia Estive. +

11 March, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427-8], came Richard Baret, Richard Heriot, William Landwath, cordwainers, and Thomas Richer, "peynter," and mainprised John Tanner, citizen and scrivener, for maintaining faithfully and honestly the stew (*estivam*) that he holds for women in Parkerislane, in the parish of St. Michael de Quenhithe, and not permitting any men or other than good and honest women to be stewed there (*ibidem estivari*) at times appointed and not otherwise, under penalty of £20.

Securitas pro honesta custodia Estive. +

16 March, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427-8], came John Bright, cordwainer, William Harrys, brewer, John Corneys, "taillour," and John Swetyng, "plummer," and mainprised John Baker for faithfully and honestly maintaining a stew for women at Brokenwharf, in the parish of St. Mary Somerset in the Ward of Queenhithe,[4] and not permitting any laundry-woman

[1] Holy Trinity, Knightrider Street, placed by Stow in Queenhithe Ward (ii. 2, 141).

[2] Woolchurch.

[3] If the church of St. Augustine Papey (or on the Wall) were included, the number of parish churches would correspond with that returned in 1371, viz., 106. See 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 282.

[4] There was a "Stew lane" in the parish of St. Mary Somerset, so called, writes Stow, "of a stewe or hotte house there kept." ('Survey,' ed. Kingsford, ii. 10.)

(*mulierem lotricem*) or any but good and honest men [*sic*] to be stewed there at times appointed, under penalty of £20.

Securitas pro honesta custodia Estive.

....., 6 Henry VI., came Henry Knyght, "dyere," Edmund Symond, "mason," John Bekke, "dyere," and John Parker, brewer, and mainprised John Whityng, brewer, for properly conducting a stew for women [in lane and parish not specified] and permitting only good and honest women to stew there, under similar penalty.

11 Aug., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], came Richard Persone, armourer, one of the executors of Symon Wynchecombe, late citizen and armourer, and formerly one of the Sheriffs,[1] and brought into Court, in a certain round barrel sealed, the records, rolls, and other memoranda of the time of the Shrievalty of the said Symon;[2] to remain in the said Court on record, &c., for those desiring their assistance, and in discharge of the said Sheriff and his executors, &c. And he delivered the key of the said barrel to John Carpenter, the Common Clerk of the City, &c.

Acquitance fait par les executeurs de Richard Whityngton as merchantz Damyas Corby et Neelle.

Acquittance under the Mayoralty seal to the executors of the late noble "merchant," Richard Whityngton, for the sum of 24 marks paid by John de Burneux, merchant of Amiens, being the quota due in his last Mayoralty from the merchants of Amiens, Corby, and Neele. Dated 20 Aug., A.D. 1427.

Exon'acio Will'mi Shippere ab assisis.

20 Oct., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], William Shippere of co. Lincoln, hosteler, discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

[1] In 1383-4.

[2] There appears to have been considerable negligence both on the part of Simon Wynchecombe and his executors, for Sheriffs as a rule were bound to bring in their Rolls soon after they left office (see 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' pp. 14, 108), and this apparently had not been done by Wynchecombe. Moreover, Wynchecombe died *circa* 1399, and his executors delayed bringing them in for nearly thirty years. (See his will, dated 1396 and proved in the Husting in 1399, 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 340-2.)

15 June, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], the guardianship of Johanna, daughter of David "Galganet," together with her patrimony, committed by John Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Margaret, widow of the said David. Sureties, viz., John Bacon and Ralph Stoke, grocers, Thomas Donyngton, goldsmith, and William Coleman, "materas maker." Fo. 54 b. *Custodia Johanne filie David Galganet.*

Afterwards, viz., 28 Nov., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], came Robert Warner, who married Margaret, widow of David "Galgenet," and John, son of the said David, and acknowledged satisfaction for the sum of £75, which became due to them by the death of Johanna, daughter of the aforesaid David.

Acquittance by John Gedney, the Mayor, for the sum of 50 marks due to the Mayor for the time being from merchants of "Amyeux," Corby, and Neel, and paid by Simonet Quinerit, attorney of John de Burneux, of "Amieux." Dated 20 Sept., A.D. 1428. *Acquitance fait par le Mair as merchantz Damyas Corby et Neell.*

20 Oct., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], Richard, son of Thomas Stacy, Knt., of co. Kent, discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio Ric'i Stacy ab assisis.*

The same day Henry Rolf, tailor, similarly discharged for like cause. *Exon'acio Henrici Rolf ab assisis.*

Masters of Misteries sworn. Fo. 55. +

Joynours: Simon Beld, John Lynde, sworn 22 Sept., 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427].

Botelmakers: William Shene, Thomas Asshbourne, sworn 1 Oct., the same year.

Shepers: William Gilberd, Ralph Sandoll, sworn 2 Oct., the same year.

Court-letter: William Burdon, John Bydeford, sworn 9 Oct., the same year.

Coriours: Richard Whyte, Henry Goldyngtone, sworn 25 Oct., the same year.

John Hylton, Beadle of the Ward of Vintry, sworn 6 May, the same year. [A.D. 1428.]

Lethersellers: Martin Aleyn, Peter Rowte, sworn 28 June, the same year.

Cordwainers: William Landwaþ, John Grene, Simon Cate, Thomas Steven, Richard Batyn, sworn 28 June, the same year.

Coupers: Thomas Alfrede, Richard Sherman, sworn 1 July, the same year.

Lorimers: William atte Noven, John Parys, John Milkenale, sworn 6 July, the same year.

Shermen: William Pope, Ralph Budle, John Horold, sworn 13 July, the same year.

Lynnynwevers of England: John Stamford, William Langle, sworn 25 July, the same year.

Armurers: Thomas Parker, John Grabesam, sworn the same day.

Copersmythes: Simon Gambone, John Bokelond, sworn 19 July, the same year.

Thomas White sworn coal-meter, 30 July.

Girdelers: John Milford, Richard Batyn, John Berden, sworn 20 Aug., the same year.

Shipwryghtis: Robert Proufote, John Jemes, sworn 23 Aug., the same year.

Mersers: William Estfeld sworn the same day.

Grosers: Robert Otteley, Robert Marchall, "Suer" (Sayer) Acre, sworn the same day.

Bladesmythes: John Leyne, John Parys, sworn 26 Aug., the same year.

Fo. 55 b.

Eleccio Joh'is Abbot et Thome "Douffhous" in vic'.

Tuesday the Feast of St. Matthew, Ap. [21 Sept.], 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], in the presence of John Gedney, the Mayor, John Simond, the Recorder, Henry Bartone, William Caumbrige, Thomas Fauconer, John Michell, John Coventre, Robert Tatersale, John Welles, Simon Seman, William Estfeld, Henry Frowyk, John Brokle, Ralph Bartone, and Robert Otteley, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs—John Abbot, mercer, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Thomas

Duffhous, fishmonger, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.[1]

The same day John Bederenden, draper, was elected Chamberlain; Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," and John Trimnell, mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; William Estfeld and John Brokle, Aldermen, Walter Chartesey, Ralph Skynnard, Robert Large, and John Pake, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the Account of the Chamber and of the Wardens of London Bridge.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

A l're fro þe Erle of Salisbury to þe Mair and Aldermen of þe Cite of London'.

Letter from the Earl of Salisbury and of Perche to the Mayor and Aldermen notifying the capture of more than forty towns, castles, and "stronge churches," among them being the town of "Yenville,"[2] since entering on the last campaign, and desiring to know of the City's welfare. Dated at "Yenville," 5 Sept. [A.D. 1428].[3]

A postscript to the above notifying that the writer had heard that Sir Richard Hankeford had succeeded in taking the town and castle of "Meun sur Leyre,"[4] where there was a bridge over the river about five leagues from the city of "Orliens."[5]

A list of towns, &c., captured.[6]

Answer to þe said l're.

Reply to the above letter assuring the Earl of the City's joy at his success and of the peaceful condition of the citizens. Dated 12 Oct. [A.D. 1428].

Fo. 56.

Eleccio Henrici Bartone in officium Maioratus.

Tuesday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], in the presence of John Gedney, the Mayor, William Clerk the Prior of Christchurch, John Simond, the Recorder,

[1] Neither of the Sheriffs appears to have been an Alderman.

[2] Janville.

[3] Letter and reply set out in 'London and the Kingdom,' iii. 370-72. Cf. Delpit, 'Documents Français qui se trouvent en Angleterre,' pp. 236-8.

[4] Mehun on the Loire.

[5] The Earl of Salisbury was killed at the siege of Orleans early in November. Amund., i. 32.

[6] The list is printed by Delpit. It is almost impossible at the present day to identify each place, nor did the French antiquary himself attempt to do so.

Thomas Knolles, William Crowmere, Nicholas Wottone, Henry Bartone, William Cauntbrigge, John Michell, John Coventre, Ralph Bartone, Robert Tatersale, John Welles, John Perneys, Simon Seman, Richard Gosselyn, William Estfeld, Henry Frowyk, John Brokle, Robert Otteley, and John Paddesle, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor—Henry Bartone was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Br'e de cap' c'tas person' in London' ad r' in placito de nativis habendis.

Writ to the Sheriffs to arrest Richard Barry and Stephen Barry, who were claimed by John Langestone and John Dayrell as their ~~nefs~~ villeins and fugitives, if found within their bailiwick, unless they be in the King's demesne, and to bring them before the King's Justices at Westminster in the octave of St. John Bapt. [24 June]. Witness W[illiam] Babyngton at Westminster, 10 June, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].

Return' br'is precedentis ubi libertas Civitat' declar'.

Return to the above to the effect that, according to the ancient custom of the City, every liege subject of the King who sought the protection and liberty of the City and there remained quiet for a year and a day, and was not reclaimed, could continue to remain there for the rest of his life if he wished.[1] And inasmuch as the said Richard and Stephen had remained quiet in the City for forty years and more before the coming of the above writ, and their status had not been challenged, and they had always been reputed of honest conversation and free condition, the writ could not be executed without prejudice of the City's rights and customs.

Presentacio falsi et corrupti vini.

20 July, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], the twelve Scrutineers of the Mistery of Vintners presented certain butts of wine, Romney and Spanish, lying in the cellars of Peter Balby, merchant of

[1] As to this privilege of "franchise by year and day" see Miss Bateson's 'Borough Customs' (Selden Soc.), ii. 88-90; Pollock and Maitland's 'Hist. of English Law,' i. 412, 633-4. In 1373, and again in 1399, objection was raised in Parliament to the custom. 'Rot. Parl.,' ii. 319; iii. 448

Venice, and Obert Grimba, merchant of Genoa, in the parish of St. Botolph, Billingsgate, as being corrupt and unfit to be drunk. Thereupon Alexander Anne, the Common Serjeant-at-law, prayed the Mayor and Aldermen to view and taste the wine according to custom. This they did, and the wine, being found to be unwholesome, was discharged into the kennel.

How the Tower of London and the Hospital of St. Katherine are of, and in, the liberty of the City. Fo. 56 b.

In order to show and prove that the Hospital of St. Katherine, with its mills and all other appurtenances, as well as the whole of the Tower Ditch and all the land of Estsmythfeld outside the postern in front of the Abbey of Graces, together with the right side of the street leading by Duddingesponde,[1] are, and have been time out of mind, in and of the liberty of the City, and part of the Ward of Portsoken without Aldgate, in the suburbs of the City, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty say that *temp.* William the Conqueror, and long before, the said Ward of Portsoken was called the Soke of Anglissh Knightgelde, and that *circa* 8 Henry I. a certain Ralph Fitz Algod, Wolfard le Deverissh, Odgar le Prude, and many other powerful citizens of the ancient race of noble English Knights who had the liberty of a Guild in the said Soke, and were seised of the whole land in the said Soke, conveyed the said land and Soke to the Church and Canons of Holy Trinity within Algate,[2] which gift was confirmed by charter of the said King, and that thereupon Norman, the then Prior, and the Convent of the said church and their successors were long seised of the same; that afterwards a certain Ralph, the Prior, and Canons of the said church granted a certain parcel of land in the said Soke or Ward—viz., that upon which the Hospital of St. Katherine now stands, and the mill there—to Queen Matilda, wife of King

[1] Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' p. 217.

[2] The date here assigned, viz., 8 Henry I., for the gift of the Knighten Guild to Christchurch is in reality the date of the foundation of Christchurch by Queen Matilda. The Knights did not make over their Guild and Soke to the church until A.D. 1125. See 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' pp. 219-20.

Stephen, in exchange for six librates of land in the Manor of Braghing, co. Herts.[1]

They further say that King Edward I. gave to the Hospital of St. Katherine a yearly sum of 5 marks 6 shillings and 9 pence for a piece of land adjoining the Tower, and now occupied by the wall and ditch surrounding the Tower, in compensation for loss the Hospital sustained by the lengthening and repairing of the said wall and ditch, as fully appears by a deed recorded *temp.* Nicholas Brembre, Mayor.[3]

They also say that at the *Iter* held at the Tower, anno 14 Edward II., it was found that the said Ward of Portsoken, formerly called "Anglissh Knightgelde," was in, and of, the liberty of London, and that whenever any assessment was made, either for the King or the Commonalty of the City, all the male inhabitants of the said Ward were wont to contribute like other freemen of the City, as most plainly appears in the copies of the Rolls of the *Iter* preserved in the Treasury of the Guildhall.[4]

They further say that King Edward III., in the seventeenth year of his reign, by writ addressed to John Hamond, then Mayor, and his Escheator, reciting the above matter touching the wall and ditch for the enlargement of the Tower, *temp.* Edward I., and also reciting that Ralph de Sandwich and John de Westone, late Constables of the Tower, had let the above piece of land acquired by the King's grandfather to divers persons without royal permission, and wishing to be informed if his grandfather had really acquired the parcel of land in Estsmythfeld from the aforesaid Hospital for a yearly payment of 5 marks 6 shillings and 9 pence, as aforesaid, or not, and also whether or no the aforesaid Ralph and John had demised the piece of land as aforesaid, and all particulars of the same—had commanded the said John Hamond to hold an inquiry on oath and make a return on the matter, and this

[1] *Circa* 1147 or 1148.
[2] Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' p. 217.
[3] 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 283.
[4] A record of the proceedings of the *Iter* of 1321 is preserved in the City's 'Liber Custumarum,' but nothing appears there touching the assessment of Portsoken Ward.

had accordingly been done, as may be seen from the Rolls of Escheat, *temp.* John Hamond, Mayor, in the Treasury of the Guildhall.[1]

They also say that all the lands and tenements on the right of the street by Duddingesponde and around the aforesaid places of Estsmythfeld, Thourhill, and Romeland are, and have always been held in the courts of the lord the King to be, within the City, as may be seen from pleas of tenants enrolled in the Guildhall, which enrolments have greater force than fines at Common Law (*que controvalent fines ad co'em legem levat'*).[2] Fo. 57.

They further say that in cases of accidents and sudden death, necessitating inquests in any of those parts, and even within the Tower itself when the King was there, the Sheriffs and Coroners of the City and other officers of the same have ever been accustomed to hold inquests, to issue summons, and attach, &c., as may be seen in the Coroners' Rolls and other records preserved in the aforesaid Treasury.

They say also that among other liberties granted to the City by divers Kings, and confirmed in various Parliaments, there is one to the effect that no summons, attachment, or execution shall be made in the City by other than officers of the said City.

It is, therefore, clear that the said Hospital of St. Katherine with its mills and other appurtenances, also the whole of the Tower ditch and all of the land of Estsmythfeld outside the postern in front of the Abbey of Graces, together with the right side of the street leading by Duddingesponde and the whole of the ditch and open space outside the Tower [but] within the postern called "Romeland," with all houses and gardens around it, are and ever have been in, and of, the City aforesaid.

[1] Escheat Roll EE, membr. 7, preserved in the Town Clerk's office.

[2] Cf. "Sicut per diversa scripta inde confecta et in Hustengo London' recognita et irrotulata que sunt tanti vigoris per consuetudinem dicte civitatis sicut fines ad communem legem levati manifestius apparet." Extract from will of Peter David — Hust. Roll, 162 (53).

The Court of the lord the King, held before Henry Bartone, the Mayor, John Symond, the Recorder, William Crowmere, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas Wottone, William Cauntbrigge, John Michell, Robert Tatersale, John Welles, William Estfeld, Simon Seman, Ralph Bartone, John Perneys, Henry Frowik, John Brokle, Robert Ottele, and Stephen Broun, Aldermen:— Whereas on the 7th June, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], and oftentimes before, it was plainly shown before the said Mayor and Aldermen by Thomas Fulthorpe, Serjeant-at-law, and other trustworthy persons, that a grant formerly made to Stephen Colley, goldsmith, by John, son of John Wodecok, late mercer, of certain lands and tenements for a term of years, had been made by way of security for the repayment of a sum of money due to the lessee, and also in order to prevent any loss occurring to John, the lessor's son, a City orphan, by reason of a deed of feoffment in the custody of the said Thomas Fulthorpe, whereby Richard Cotton, who was seised of the same lands and tenements, had enfeoffed Ralph Eure and others of the same—it was agreed by the aforesaid Mayor and Aldermen, on the aforesaid day, that the said Stephen Colley should enjoy the said lands and tenements for the term granted to him, on condition of his paying out of the profits an annual sum of 100*s.* to the Chamberlain for the use of the said orphan. The said Stephen, moreover, gave a bond in £200 to the Chamberlain that he would cause the said Thomas Fulthorpe to bring into Court the aforesaid deed of feoffment, which the said Thomas did, as appears *infra* fo. 58.

Fo. 57 b.

Custodia Thome filii Ric'i "Withi-ale."

Be it remembered that whereas, on the 16th December, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1427], the guardianship of Thomas, son of Richard "Withihale," late goldsmith, and of his patrimony, was committed to John, the orphan's brother, as appears *supra*, fo. 50 — the custody of a sum of money bequeathed to the said orphan by Alice his mother was also committed on the 20th May [A.D. 1428] to the aforesaid brother. Sureties, viz., John Stalkenden, William Boton, William Walton, and John Sutton, goldsmiths.

Custodia Johanne filie Will'mi Flete.

20 May, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], the guardianship of Johanna, daughter of William Flete, late fishmonger, together with her patrimony, committed by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, for a term of five years, to Thomas "Berwell," "Bernewell," or "Bernewode," fishmonger, who married Alice, the orphan's mother. Sureties, viz., John Whattone, John Leget, junior, John Feyrfold, and John Streynesham.

Fo. 58.

Ordinac'oes Pistor'.

13 Dec., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], ordinances made by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to the following effect:—

That no baker buy for baking or reselling any good meal intermixed with bad, or bake bread of meal or bran that is not good, on pain of imprisonment and fine for the first two offences, and heavy punishment (*vile jugement*)[1] for the third.

That every baker and his servants shall boult their meal twice, one boulter being large and the other smaller, and be diligent in "knedyng" as well as in keeping the dough (*en garder du past*)[2] and their season of making it (*et leur seisoun de la feisure*), under the same penalty, and he who will not shall be put out of the Mistery.

That no baker shall bake with spring water (*eawe de fontaigne*),[3] on peril and penalty that is prescribed.

That bakers shall sell to hucksters thirteen loaves for a dozen and no more, under penalty aforesaid, for so the poor are often defrauded in their purchases.

That no baker make horse-bread except of pure beans and peas, without mixing them with any other grain or bran, under the same penalty.

That Masters of the Mistery of Bakers see that members observe the above ordinances.

[1] This appears to correspond with *peine vylein* in similar ordinances touching bakers recorded in Letter-Book H in 1378. See 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 106-7.

[2] Omitted in the ordinances of 1378.

[3] From this it appears that bakers, like the brewers, were debarred from using the waters of the Conduit, although it has been suggested that spring water was too hard for the proper kneading of bread. 'Liber Albus,' Introd., p. liii.

De t'ris Wodecok. In the quinzaine of St. Michael [29 Sept.], 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], came Thomas Fulthorp, Serjeant-at-law, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain of the City, for safekeeping a certain deed of feoffment whereby Richard Cotoun enfeoffed Ralph Eure and others with certain lands and tenements formerly belonging to John Wodecok, mercer, and held for a term by Stephen Colley and Richard Baret, cordwainers.[1]

Exon'acio Joh'is Wedyng ab assisis. 11 Nov., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], John, son of William Wedyng of Teveresham,[2] discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age, except on urgent occasion.

Exon'acio Will'mi Fromond civis et hornere Lond' ab assisis. 9 July, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], William Fromond, "hornere," similarly discharged for like cause.

Fo. 58 b.

Custodia bonor' pertin' liberis Margarete Clideroowe etc. 18 Oct., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], came Brother John Neel, Master of the House of St. Thomas de Acon, and Thomas Bataille, mercer, executors of Margaret Cliderowe, "silkwoman," widow of Elias Cliderowe, and delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, certain vessels in trust for Elias and Margaret her surviving children, her other children, viz., Edmund, John, and Thomas, having died under age. The vessels comprised (*inter alia*) a silver-gilt piece pounced (*pounsonat'*) with falcons, a covered silver cup called "stondyng cuppe" with gilt top and border, silver spoons, a silver "pouderbox," a silver "flatpece" with cover, a "cruse" for "Reynisshwyne," silver pieces with "trayll" of vine and roses, &c., the whole being valued at £16 2*s.* 6*d.* The executors, moreover, delivered to the said Margaret a black gown furred with "Grey,"[3] a black hood, and two kirtles left to her by a codicil.

Exon'acio Salamonis Oxney ab assisis. 2 March, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], Salamon Oxney, goldsmith, discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and the Sheriffs from serving on juries, &c., he having been

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 84.

[2] Teversham, co. Cambr.

[3] Grey squirrel fur.

found on inquiry to be over seventy years of age and afflicted with deafness.

Fo. 59.

9 Dec., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], precept to the Aldermen to hold their several Wardmotes, and present such defects as they could not themselves remedy to the General Court to be held on Monday after the Epiphany [6 Jan.]; and further, to levy money for the use of the Guildhall, take steps for lighting, cleansing the streets, and to elect a prescribed number of men to sit in the Common Council, &c.

Consimile mandatum miss' fuit cuilibet Aldermanno.

Bill' pro apprenticio.

29 Nov. [A.D. 1428?], Symon Welles, one of the Clerks of the King's Court, brings a bill for contempt and trespass against Richard Claidich, writer of the court-hand, for having taken as apprentice Thomas Fermery, whose parents had less than 20*s.* a year in land and rent, contrary to the Statute 7 Henry IV.[1] The said Richard pleads in defence that although the statute forbids parents putting out a son or daughter as apprentice unless they had 20*s.* a year in land and rent, it says nothing touching a son or daughter putting himself or herself as apprentice as they may please. Thereupon the bill was declared bad, and Symon Welles to be in mercy for an unjust plaint.

Fo. 59 b.

Writ of certiorari to the King's Treasurer and Chamberlain to search the book of Domesday and to make a return whether or not they find the City of London to be of the ancient demesne of the Crown. Witness the King at Westminster, 8 July, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].

Br'e de cerciorari in libro de Domesday si civitas Londo' sit de antiquo d'nico corone Anglie necne.

Return' q'd nichil invenitur in p'dco libro tangens civitatem Londo'.

Return made to the above writ to the effect that, after searching Domesday Book, they had not found that the City of London was of ancient demesne of the Crown, nor had they found anything in the book touching the said City.[2]

[1] Cap. xvii. 'Statutes at Large' (ed. 1758), i. 477. Repealed by 8 Henry VI., cap. xi. Cf. *infra*, pp. 104-5.

[2] For some reason, not explained, many parts of England, and notably London and Middlesex, were not surveyed for the purpose of Domesday Book. This remarkable book was kept in the Exchequer until, in 1696, it was deposited in the Chapter House at Westminster, whence it was transferred to the Public Record Office in 1859.

Writ to the Justices of the King's Bench enclosing the above return, which they are to consider and proceed in the plaint between John Langestone, John Dayrell, Richard Barry, and Stephen Barry, as they may see fit according to the law and custom of the realm. Witness the King at Westminster, 9 July, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].

De attentta. Writ of Henry [VI.] to the same, enclosing the record and proceedings formerly taken against certain jurors in a plaint between Richard le Chaucer and Mary his wife, Geoffrey Stace and Agnes his wife, late wife of Walter de Westhale, Thomas Stace, and Laurence "Geffreysman" Stace, touching a trespass committed against the said Richard and Mary,[1] and bidding the said Justices to act further therein (at the instance of the present Mayor, &c.), according to the law and custom of the realm and the liberty and custom of the City. Witness the King at Westminster, 22 Nov. [A.D. 1428 ?].

De recordac'oe consuetudinum. Writ of Edward [III.] to Geoffrey le Scrope and his fellow Justices that they admit, without demur, the customs of the City recorded by the Mayor and citizens in any plea or plaint, and allow the said Mayor and citizens to enjoy the same. Witness the King at New Sarum, 28 Oct., 2 Edward III. [A.D. 1328].[2]

De recordaco'e consuetudinum. Writ of Henry VI. to the Justices of the King's Bench that they allow the citizens to record their liberties and customs as of old. Witness the King at Westminster, 18 Oct., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].

De attentta. Another writ to the same, enclosing a certificate of proceedings touching the above Richard Chaucer and others, *temp.* Edward III.,[3] and bidding them acknowledge the City's liberties and customs. [No date.]

Fo. 60. 13 Oct., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], petition to the Common Council by the Wardens and good folk of the Mistery of Coupers, that the ordinances made during the Mayoralty of

Ordinacio de Coupers.

[1] Proceedings had been commenced at least a century before. See 'Cal. Letter-Book E,' pp. 218-19; 'Liber Albus,' i. 437-44.

[2] Set out in 'Liber Albus,' i. 438-9. Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book E,' p. 218.

[3] The proceedings recorded in Letter-Book E.

Drew Barantyn, and recorded in Letter-Book I, fo. lxxxii [b], touching the use of sound wood without "sappe" in the making of barrels, &c., together with the penalties then imposed, might be extended to cover all persons engaged in the craft, whether free of the Mistery of Coupers or not.[1]

De furrur' forisfact'.

27 Nov., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], came John More, John Herst, Richard Alley, and Hugh Somervile, Wardens of the Mistery of Skinners, before Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented six panes[2] (*panas*) or furs of "ficheux"[3] falsely and deceitfully made and packed (*pakkatas*), to wit good skins seasoned (*seisonatas*) and not seasoned called "Staches,"[4] intermixed and sewn together, found in the house of John Halyate, mercer, in the parish of St. Mary atte Bowe, and prayed that the said furs might be treated according to the laws and customs of the City. Thereupon the said John Halyate was summoned, and being put on his defence declared that he had obtained the said furs in foreign parts in the same condition as they were found, but whether they were deceitfully made or not he was not aware, as he was not an expert, but he was ready to submit to judgment. The Mayor and Aldermen, finding the said furs to be deceitfully made and packed, thereupon adjudged that all the skins that were "stache" and not seasonable should be cut out from those that were seasonable, and be forfeited to the use of the Commonalty, and that the rest should be restored to the owner.

Exon'acio Joh'is Cole ab assisis.

25 Feb., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], John Cole of co. Norfolk, skinner, discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the

[1] Set out in 'Hist. Memoranda, &c., of the Coopers' Company,' by James F. Firth (pp. 11, 12), from the Letter-Book.

[2] In the account given by Gregory ('Chron.,' p. 166) of the King's coronation he is described as being clothed in "a goune of scharlette whythe *a pane* of ermyn." Cf. "Pane of a furrure" (Way's 'Prompt. Parv.').

[3] Polecat.

[4] Queen Elizabeth's charter to the Skinners' Company forbade the mixing of seasonable and unseasonable furs (otherwise known as "stage" and "seson") except in the case of "stradling" or "stranling," *i.e.*, the fur of the squirrel at the season of Michaelmas.

Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 60 b.

Br'e de certiorari sup' tenorib' diversar' lib'tatum civitatis London'.

Writ of certiorari to the Mayor and Aldermen touching slaves and niefs entering the City and remaining therein for a year and a day without challenge of their lords.[1] Witness the King at Westminster, 20 Jan., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9].

Return to the above to the following effect: That on folio xxi of the Second Part of a certain book called 'Repertorium'[2] there is a certain record or memorandum to the following effect:—

[Here follows the legendary account of the building of the City by Brute and of its enjoying Trojan rights, liberties, and customs, &c.]

That in the book touching the ancient laws (*In libro de antiquis legibus, etc.*), liberties, and customs of the City called 'Speculum'[3] it is recorded to the following effect:—

De antiquis lib'tatib' civit'.

Be it remembered that in the time of St. Edward, King of England, and before, whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, it has been the custom in the City of London, as also it was in the great City of Troy, that every slave who entered the City and therein remained a year and a day without being claimed by his lord could remain there for life as in a hospice or King's Chamber. Hence it is that the said Saintly King Edward decreed that the City should have and preserve all its ancient uses and customs wheresoever the King himself might be, whether on an expedition or otherwise. Afterwards King William the Conqueror, by his charter preserved in the same Treasury as the aforesaid ordinance of St. Edward, granted to the men of London that they should be worthy of all

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 80.

[2] The 'Repertorium' here mentioned is the City's 'Liber Albus,' where the "memorandum" that follows is recorded on fo. xxi (later, marked as fo. 18) in a different hand, and later in date than the rest of the MS. See 'Liber Albus' (Rolls Series), i. 61.

[3] From the title one would think that what is now known as the 'Liber de Antiquis' among the City's Records was formerly known as 'Speculum.' There is nothing, however, in the 'Liber de Antiquis' to correspond with what is here set out. It may possibly refer to Horn's 'Speculum Justiciariorum,' or 'Mirror of Justices,' bequeathed by him to the City in 1328, but no longer in the City's possession. See 'Cal. of Wills Court of Husting, London,' i. 344.

that law and right (*ritu*) which they had in the days of the aforesaid Edward, and further granted (*inter alia*) that if slaves remained a year and a day without challenge in walled boroughs or castles or cities of the King, of which London has always been esteemed the chief, they from that day became free men. It is to be noted that the laws and statutes of St. Edward the King above mentioned are recorded on fo. xxxiv of this book under the title *De heretochiis* [sic] *et libertate London*', and on fo. cxiii of the 'Liber Custumarum,'[1] and fo. xxxvi of the book called 'Recordatorium.'[2] The statute also touching slaves and niefs by William the Conqueror is recorded on fo. xxviii of this book, on fo. cvi of the 'Liber Custumarum,'[3] on fo. xxix of the 'Recordatorium,' and on fo. clxii of the Red Book of the Exchequer. The charter by which the aforesaid King granted to the citizens the rights (*ritus*) and laws which they had *temp.* St. Edward, together with another charter by which the said King gave to the citizens, immediately after the conquest, all the hide and land of the City which he then held in demesne, remain under the King's seal in the custody of the Chamberlain in the City's Treasury. These charters are recorded in the great charter of liberties and customs of the City, and are confirmed by the lord the King and his progenitors. Their contents appear in the Latin tongue on fo. ccxxxviii of the Liber Ordinacionum.'[4]

[1] The laws of Edward the Confessor (as confirmed by William the Conqueror) are recorded on fos. 32-39 b of the City's 'Liber Custumarum' as constituted at the present day, but no mention is there made of the City's liberties. 'Lib. Cust.' (Rolls Series), ii. 630-42.

[2] Possibly identical with 'Liber Regum Antiquorum,' a MS. now lost. See Introd., 'Lib. Cust.,' i. pp. xi, xii, xiii. Introd. 'Lib. Albus,' i. p. xvii.

[3] Not in the 'Liber Custumarum' of the present day.

[4] Referring, no doubt, to fo. 246 b of the 'Liber Ordinacionum' as still preserved among the City's archives, where two charters of William the Conqueror are recorded in Latin, one being the well-known charter of liberties to the citizens, and the other purporting to grant to the citizens all the King's hide and land covered by the City. Against this latter there has been entered, in an eighteenth-century hand, the following observation: "I never saw the originall of this last, and I doubt the interpretation has been mistaken." No such charter is known in the City at the present day.

Fo. 61.

Br'e pro civib' London' contra custum' Baione.

Writ to the Mayor, jurats, and inhabitants of the King's city of Bayonne in his duchy of Aquitaine forbidding them to exact toll from merchants of London. Witness the King at Westminster, 18 February, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9].

Exon'acio Joh'is Bacun ab assisis.

3 March, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], John Bacun, woolmonger, discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 61 b.

Les alliaunces perentre Engleterre Haynan' Hollan' Zeland'.

Letters patent confirming to merchants of Holland and Zealand the right to traffic freely in England. Dated at Westminster, 1 July, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].[1]

Br'e ad admittend' Thomam Haseley in officium Coronator' London'.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to admit Thomas Haseley as deputy to Thomas Chaucer, the King's Butler, and *ex officio* Coroner of the City. Witness the King at Westminster, 12 March, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428–9].

Fo. 62.

Ordinacio q'd aliqui mittant' pro fr'o sub p'iclo co'itatis.

22 April, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], ordinance by the Common Council that persons should be sent abroad to buy corn, at the City's risk of any loss by sea or otherwise.

Lalliances entre Engleterre et Flaundres etc.

Letters patent confirming to merchants of Flanders the right to traffic freely in England. Dated at Westminster, 1 July, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].[2]

Fo. 62 b.

Br'e d'ni Regis pro P'liamento.

Writ for the election of four citizens to attend a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the quinzaine of St. Michael [29 Sept.]. No Sheriff to be returned. Witness the King at Westminster, 12 July, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].[3]

Exon'acio Simonis Spaldyng ab assisis.

3 Sept., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], Simon Spaldyng, tailor, discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Quietanc' orphani.

20 Oct., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], came Henry Hemptone, mercer, who married Margaret, daughter of Margaret, wife of Elias Cliderowe, late mercer, before Henry Bartone, the

[1] Set out in Rymer's 'Fœdera,' x. 403.

[2] Set out in Rymer's 'Fœdera,' x. 404.

[3] The day for the meeting of Parliament was afterwards changed from the 13th Oct. to the 22nd Sept. *Infra*, p. 100.

Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his wife's property.[1]

2 March, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], the guardianship of John senior, John junior, and Thomas, sons of Walter Colrede, late girdler, together with their property, committed by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, to William Wodeward, haberdasher, for a term of five years. Sureties for William Wodeward, viz., Richard Polhille, skinner, John Northey, poulterer, John Spenser, taverner (*pandoxator*), and John Worshope, painter. Surety for the said orphans not being apprenticed or married without consent of the Mayor and Aldermen, viz., John Lee, girdler. Fo. 63. *Custodia puer' Walteri Colrede nup' civis et zonar' London'.*

Afterwards, viz., on the 13th Dec., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], came the above William Wodeward and delivered to John Chichele the orphans' patrimony. He and his sureties are therefore discharged. *Exon'acio custodie predicte.*

10 Dec., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], came William Broun, John Newenton, and Thomas Belgrave, Wardens of the Mistery of Cutlers, before Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented a baselard harnessed with silver of false alloy found in the house of John "Hoke" of the said Mistery. The said John Hoke acknowledged his guilt, and put himself on the Court's favour. Thereupon it was adjudged, pursuant to ordinance recorded in Letter-Book F, fo. xc [b],[2] that the said John for this his first offence should pay to the Chamber 40 pence, and be committed to prison in default. *Judicium finis et inprisonament' sup' Joh'em "Hooke" cultellar' jam primo.*

Afterwards, viz., on the 3rd Jan., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], the above John was presented the second time with two bars (*stipis*) of silver of false alloy for harnessing a girdle,[3] and being convicted was condemned to pay 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Chamber, and be committed to prison in default. *Judicium finis et inprisonamenti sup' Joh'em Hooke cultellar' jam secundo.*

Afterwards, viz., on the 11th Jan., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], the above John was presented with two lockets (*lokettis*), &c., *Judicium finis et inprisonamenti p'dci Joh'is jam tercio.*

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 86.

[2] See 'Calendar Letter-Book F,' p. 110; 'Memorials,' pp. 217-19.

[3] Cf. *supra*, p. 65.

of silver of false alloy for harnessing a baselard belonging to John Howys, a cutler, and being convicted was condemned to pay 10*s.* to the Chamber, and be committed to prison in default.

13 Aug., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], came John Colrede senior, now of full age, before Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged he had received from John Chichele, the Chamberlain, the money due to him from his late father and John his brother.

Letter from the Mayor and Aldermen to the Duke of Bedford.

Fo. 63 b.

L'ra missa per Maiorem et Ald'os d'no duci Bedford.

"Right high and right myghty Prince We recomande us to yo^{r} gracieux lordship in þe most humble maner we konne or may Beseching mekely fro the deppest of our hertes that it please you to be our good and gracieux lord at þis time in tharticle of our grete necessite as ye have ben ever here to fore in alle caases of your high grace only & not our merit Of which necessite our wel be loved Concitein William Rider[1] presenter of þese simple lettres yef it like yo^{r} high lordship shal enforme you For after our sov'aign lord þer nys no persone in erthe þ^{t} us ought or semeth so tristily to seke un to for grace and socour in tyme of nede as unto you in your gracieux lordship which god of his endlesse m'cy kepe & preserve in all honure and joye to his plesanche and our singler confort Writen &c." [No date.]

Exon'acio Will'mi Godewyne ab assisis.

10 Aug., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], William Godwyne, draper, discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to deafness and increasing old age.

Un Ordenaunce entre les Bowiers et Flecchers.

12 Jan., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], the articles passed *temp.* John de Bernes, Mayor, anno 45 Edward III., and enrolled in Letter-Book G, fo. cclxvi [b], forbidding men of the several Misteries of Bowyers and Flecchers from intermeddling with each other, now amended to the extent of allowing men of either Mistery to buy or sell wholesale that which appertains

[1] He was one of those sent abroad to buy corn for the City's use, the time being one of great scarcity, as already recorded (*supra*, p. 92). He was afterwards discharged from serving on juries, &c., in recognition of his services. (*Vide infra*, p. 100.)

to the other Mistery, but not to intermeddle in retail dealings or manufacture. Further, that such things as bows, arquebusses, &c., shall be subject to the survey of the Bowyers, whilst feathers (*pennes*), *flecches*, *settes*, *petils*,[1] and wood for making them, shall be subject to the survey of the Flecchers, and not otherwise.

Fo. 64

Securitas honeste custod' Estive in Secollane etc.

23 March, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], came Henry Grene, William Middelcote, and John de York, "bruers," and mainprised Peter Hope, "dauber," for properly conducting the stew he held for men in Secollane, in the parish of St. Sepulchre without Neugate, and not permitting any washerwoman to enter the stew, but keeping it for the stewing of good and respectable men. The said mainpernors and Peter Hope entered into bond with John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £20 to that effect.

Securitas pro honesta custodia Estive apud Venours wharf etc.

6 April, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], a similar bond entered into by John Savy, "dier," Thomas Tirell, "sadiller," John Hunt, cordwainer, and Simon Frank, fishmonger, for the proper conduct of a stew held by Thomas Warwyk, "wodemonger," at "Venureswharf,"[2] in the parish of St. Mary Somerset.

Judicium pillor' pro falsis saccis carbonum.

10 March, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9], John Twyner of Croydon, "colier," charged before Henry Bartone, the Mayor, John Simond, the Recorder, William Crowmere, William Caumbrigge, John Michell, John Gedney, Robert Tatersale, Thomas Wandesford, John Brokle, and Robert Otteley, Aldermen, with selling coal in sacks of deficient capacity. He confessed his guilt, and was condemned to stand on the pillory for an hour whilst the sacks were burnt beneath him.

Precept to the Sheriffs to execute the above judgment on the following day, and to make public proclamation of the cause thereof.

[1] Cf. Lat. *petillarii*, *i.e.*, arrow-makers (*infra*, fo. 161 b).

[2] So called from its owner Henry Vanner, a Vintner, who also gave the name to Vanner's Lane, known in Stow's time as "Church lane," leading, as it did, from the wharf to St. Martin's Church in the Vintry. See 'Cal. of Wills, Court of Hust.,' i. 678; Stow's 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 240.

Hokkyng defenduz.

Proclamation to be made forbidding the enforcing of "hokkyng" on Monday and Tuesday next, called "lez hokkedayes," under penalty.

Consimilis billa missa fuit cuilibet Aldr'o.

Precept to the Aldermen to provide an armed watch in their several Wards on the two nights and vigils of St. John the Baptist [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], according to ancient custom, and further to order that a vessel of water be set before every house as a precaution against fire. Dated 6 June, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Fo. 64 b.

Br'e d'ni Regis pro op'ariis pannor' de partib' extran' etc. sustent' et manutenend'.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs that they allow clothworkers (*operarii pannorum*) from foreign parts to enjoy the divers liberties and acquittances they have been accustomed to enjoy under their charters, which are now confirmed. Witness the King at Westminster, 18 .....[1], 7 Henry VI.

R'no [sic] *Maioris et Vic'.*

Return to the above by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and John Abbot and Thomas Duffehous, the Sheriffs, to the effect that before the receipt of the writ foreign clothworkers had hitherto been permitted, and would in future still be permitted, to enjoy their liberties and acquittances in the City and suburbs.

Br'e de h'end' coram d'no R' in Canc' Ric' fil' et her' W. Waldern'.

Writ to the Mayor, the King's Escheator, to bring up Richard, son and heir of Margaret, late wife of William Walderne, before the King's Chancery by the octave of Holy Trinity [22 May] next. Witness the King at Westminster, 10 May, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Returnum etc.

Return made by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, to the above, setting out the custom of the City relating to orphans,[2] and stating that inasmuch as the above William Walderne was a freeman of the City at the time of his death, leaving a widow and his son Richard under age, the property coming to the said son was immediately taken into the custody of the City; and on the marriage of the widow to John Roys the same was transferred to his custody until the said Richard should come of age, according to the custom of the City. The present Mayor had never had the custody of the said orphan, and on that account could not execute the writ.

[1] The month not recorded. Cf. *infra*, fo. 119.

[2] Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' pp. 220-1.

Fo. 65.

Br'e de errore etc. corrigend etc.

Writ of error to the Mayor and Sheriffs touching an action for trespass brought by John Priour of Sandwich, "chapman," against John Whelere of Sandwich, "peutrer." The matter must be reconsidered at the next Husting and justice done. Witness the King at Westminster, 12 April, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Return' q'd pars delib'ari non potest ex^a^ prison' etc. absq' deposicione den' vel vad' ad valorem condempn'.

Return made to the above writ by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, John Abbot and Thomas Duffehous, the Sheriffs, setting forth the custom of the City in proceedings on writs in error, and stating that they are unable to discharge John Wheler from custody owing to his not having given security to the amount in which he was condemned.

Fo. 65 b.

Names of Masters of divers Misteries sworn anno 7 Henry VI.

Barbers: Simon Poule, John Daltone, John Purchas, Simon Rolf, Richard Welles, sworn 9 Sept., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], to survey the mistery and all those practising the said mistery as well as the faculty of Surgery in the same.

Tapicers: John Banantre, John Bregges, Richard Pope, John Notyngham, sworn 5 Oct., the same year.

Hurers: John Smyth, John Valentyne, Simon Wayte, sworn 7 Oct., the same year.

Steynoures: William Edward, Roger Aleyn, sworn 8 Oct., the same year.

Horners: John Corby, William Seman, sworn 20 Oct., the same year.

Flecchers: William Crane, John Turnour, sworn 22 Oct., the same year.

Nicholas Flemyg elected corn-meter, sworn 23 Oct., the same year.

Coriours: John West, Thomas Colman, sworn 25 Oct., the same year.

Foundours: Walter Adam, William Bryd, sworn 26 Oct., the same year.

Masons (lathomi): Edmund Symond, John Wymmyg, sworn 3 Nov., the same year.

Pulters: Thomas Rede, James Mogon, John Etone, sworn 3 Nov., the same year.

Wexchaundelers: Thomas Galiot, John Mayho, sworn 4 Nov., the same year.

Fo. 66. *Blaksmethis:* John Nicholl, William Towcet, William Ferrour, sworn 4 Nov., the same year.

Pouchemakers and *Galechemakers:* William Pepyr, William More, Thomas Cok, John Taillour, sworn 4 Nov., the same year.

Surgeons: Thomas Moorstede, John Hatfeld, sworn 13 Nov., the same year.

Botelmakers: Thomas Assheborne, Thomas Langle, sworn 13 Nov., the same year.

Brewers: John Frost, John Spenser, William Grote, William Parys, sworn 18 Nov., the same year.

Wollenwevers, foreign: John Grove, Henry Nettelsep, sworn 20 Nov., the same year.

Wollenwevers, native: John Cok, Hugh Sharpe, sworn 20 Jan., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9].

Latoners: Thomas Morder, William Marchall, sworn the same day.

Cordwainers: Richard Panter, John Hamond, Simon Burnam, John Bernycham, sworn 1 July, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429]. The same were also sworn for the assay of leather.

Lethersellers: Nicholas Chirch, John Gawge, sworn 18 July, the same year.

Lynynwevers: William Cokenage, John Rikhill, sworn 27 July, the same year.

Dyers: Robert Brambull, Thomas Couper, sworn 9 Aug., the same year.

Joyners: Peter Attehoke, John Derke, sworn 27 Aug., the same year.

Tapicers: Ralph Spayne, Richard Wrastilton, John Flessh, Henry Letot, sworn 3 Oct., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Shermen: William Norton, William Spaldyng, William Akynshawe, sworn 5 Oct., the same year.

Scrutineers of Ale, Malt, &c.: John Chapman, Roger Blysset, William Parys, William Payne, sworn 15 Dec., the same year.

Cokys: John Beke, Robert Vyns, John Stokwell, John Rychemond, sworn 16 Dec., the same year.

Fo. 66 b. *De resoluco'e et securitate v m^l marcar' d'no Regi apprestit'.*

Writ to the Collectors of the subsidy on wool, leather, and woolfells in the Port of the City of London, bidding them to hand over one part of the seal called "coket"[1] to the Mayor and Commonalty, to be held by them until the sum of 5,000 marks lent by the City to the King shall have been repaid out of the customs. Witness the King at Westminster, 6 July, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Proclamacio.

"The Mair chargeth and commaundeth on þe Kynges behalf þ^t all maner of men of what degre or estate þ^t þey ben þ^t are withholde with the worshipfull and worthi Fader in god þe Cardinal of Engelond[2] or ony oþ^r lord knyght or skwier in his name appearealle and make theym redy in al hast for to be with hym in þeir best aray at þeir Mouster on Berham Downe[3] on Monday þ^t next cometh at nono [*sic*] at the ferthest on peyne of enprisonment of þeir bodies þ^t after þ^t tyme be founde here in eny wise." [No date.]

Fo. 67. *Br'e d'ni Reg q'd ligei sui volentes ad p'tes Dacie accedere pro m'candisis veniant ad villam de Norban' et non ad Fynmark.*

Writ to the Sheriffs of London to make proclamation to the effect that all persons wishing to traffic or fish in the land of Denmark should go to the town of "Norbarn" and no longer to "Fynmark" or elsewhere in that country, the Staple having been established by the King of Denmark at the said town. Witness the King at Westminster, 13 May, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].[4]

Aquitanc' fact' per Henricum Bartone Maiorem m'cator' de Amyas Corby et Neel.

Acquittance under the Mayoralty seal by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, for the sum of 50 marks paid by Simonet Quinert, on behalf of John Doucet, merchant of Amiens, in respect of the

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book E,' p. 253n.

[2] Henry Beaufort, created a Cardinal in 1426, who was about to set out on a Hussite crusade. "In the moneth of Juny following [1429], the cardynall of Wynchester, with a warly company, passed y^e see, entendynge to have made warre upon the herytykes or Lollars inhabyted in the countre of Prage." Fabyan, p. 599. His force, however, was diverted to assist Bedford in France.

[3] Barham, co. Kent.

[4] Cf. Rymer, 'Fœdera,' x. 416; Stat. 8 Henry VI., cap. ii.

"composition" made between the City of London and the towns of Amiens, Corby, and Neel. Dated 6 Sept., A.D. 1429.

Exon'acio Will'i Rider ab assisis.

6 Sept., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], William Rider, fishmonger, discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., for the assistance he lately rendered in obtaining corn from Normandy in a time of scarceness.[1]

Exon'acio Will'i Russell .ab assisis.

19 Oct., the same year, William Russell, fishmonger, similarly discharged owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 67 b.

Custodia Agnetis filie Thome Attewode.

28 June, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], the guardianship of Agnes, daughter of Thomas atte Wode, late hurer,[2] together with her patrimony, committed by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Wyvirtone, fishmonger, who married Johanna, the orphan's mother. Sureties, viz., Richard Danyel, Robert Marcheford, John Ropley and John Garlond.

Afterwards, viz., on the 11th August, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], the said Agnes having died under age, came Robert Holand and William Aunger, executors of the above Thomas, and asked that the orphan's money might be delivered to them to be disposed of according to the will of the said Thomas.

Br'e de venire fac' quatuor cives ad Parliamentum apud Westm' a° r' r' H. vi^ti octavo.

Writ to the Sheriffs for the election of four citizens to attend a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the morrow of the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.].[3] No Sheriff to be returned. Witness the King at Westminster, 3 Aug., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Nicholas Wotton and Nicholas James, Aldermen, Walter Gautroun and William Melreth, Commoners, elected pursuant to the above writ.

Fo. 68.

Letter from John, Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, to Charles de Valois, formerly called *Dauphin de Viennois*, and now wrongfully called King, in opposition to the writer's sovereign

[1] *Vide supra*, p. 94.

[2] By his will dated 1 Dec., 1427, and enrolled in the Court of Husting in Oct., 1430 (see 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 452), he devised to his daughter Agnes certain tenements in the parishes of St. Michael, Queenhithe, and St. Mary Somerset.

[3] Parliament opened on the 22nd Sept., and on the 20th Dec. was prorogued to the 14th Jan., 1430. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 335, 338.

lord Henry, the true, natural, and legitimate King of France and of England, complaining of his having occupied with his forces towns and castles rightly belonging to the said Henry, and of his deceiving superstitious people by the aid of a dissolute woman disguised as a man,[1] and also of an apostate mendicant friar.[2] He bids Charles to make peace with him, or meet him in battle, as becomes a Prince. Dated at "Mortereau ou soure Dyonne,"[3] 7 Aug., A.D. 1429.

Fo. 68 b.

De vestura civium in parliamento.

12 Aug., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], ordinance by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, to put a stop to the City's representatives in Parliament appropriating more cloth and fur at the City's expense than they ought. The same confirmed on the 29th Aug. by the Common Council.[4]

27 May [A.D. 1430], ordinance by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, that thenceforth from the beginning of May until the beginning of October butter should be sold at eight ounces for a halfpenny, and from the beginning of October until the beginning of May at six ounces for a halfpenny, and not otherwise, on pain of forfeiture of the said butter for the use of poor prisoners of the City, and of fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the Mayor and Aldermen. [*English.*]

Presentacio d'ni Thome Marchaunt Presbiteri ad eccl'iam S'ci Petri sup' Cornhull London'.

Letter under the seal of the Mayoralty from Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and John Abbot and Thomas Dufhouse, the Sheriffs, to William [Grey], Bishop of London, presenting Master Thomas Marchaunt, a student in the University of Cambridge, for admission as Rector of the Church of St. Peter upon

[1] The Maid of Orleans.

[2] Referring to Father Richard, a preaching friar of the Augustinian Order, who assisted Joan of Arc in recovering Troyes for the French King. He had lately been driven out of Paris and other places in subjection to the English for having preached in favour of the French party. Monstrelet, 'Chron.' (transl. by Thomas Johnes), i. 556-7.

[3] Or, as it also appears in the same letter, "Monstreu ou folt Dyonne," the place being Montereau-faut-Yonne, near Melun, the scene of the murder of John of Burgundy in 1419. The letter is printed by Monstrelet (French ed. 1603), ii. 48-50.

[4] Particulars are set out in 'London and the Kingdom,' i. 274.

Cornhill, in place of Sir John Whitby, deceased. Dated 12 Sept., A.D. 1429.

Fo. 69. Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs and Collectors of custom and subsidies in the Port of the City, prescribing the manner in which they are thenceforth to carry out their duties. Witness the King at Westminster, 16 Nov., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428].

Exon'acio Joh'is Ketyll ab assisis. 12 Sept., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], John Ketyll, "coper-smythe," discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to deafness and increasing old age.

Fo. 69 b. Wednesday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], in the presence of Henry Bartone, the Mayor, John Symond the Recorder, John Gedney, William Caumbrige, Thomas Fauconer, John Welles, Simon Seman, William Estfeld, Henry Frowyk, John Brokle, Ralph Bartone, Robert Otteley, Stephen Broun, and Robert Large, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, William Russe, goldsmith, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Ralph Holand was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

Eleccio Will'mi Russe et Rad'i Holand in vic'.

The same day, John Bederenden was elected Chamberlain; Robert Colbroke, "irmonger," and William Trymnell, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; John Brokle and Henry Frowyk, Aldermen, Walter Chartesey, John Pake, John Olney, and William Gregory, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Proclamacio. Royal proclamation for all those who ought to do service at the King's coronation on Sunday next after the Feast of All Saints [1 Nov.] to repair to the Duke of Gloucester, the King's uncle, and Steward of England assigned for the time of the said coronation, in the Painted Chamber at Westminster, on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], and make their claim.

Eleccio Will'mi Estfeld ad officium Maioratus.

Thursday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], after Mass in the Guildhall Chapel, in the presence of Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Symond the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, William Crowmere, Thomas Fauconer, William Cauntbrige, John Michel, John Gedney, John Welles, Ralph Bartone, Simon Seman, William Estfeld, Henry Frowyk, Thomas Wandisford, Robert Ottele, John Brokle, John Pattesle, Stephen Broun, Robert Large, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing—William Estfeld was elected.

Afterwards, on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow he was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Exon'acio Joh'is Bullok ab assisis.

21 Oct., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], John Bullok, skinner, discharged by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Nicholas Martyn of London, "brocour," and Richard Janyn of "Cicestre," merchant, charged before Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, with having, in July, 1429, forged a bond whereby William Bramptone and Robert Bramptone of "Shesterfield,"[1] co. Derby, merchants, purported to be bound to the King and to Master Robert Dixson, clerk, and Andrew Towtyng, stockfishmonger, Collectors of the King's customs in the port of Boston,[2] in the sum of £63 15*s.* 9*d.*, and with having negotiated the same with John Hatherley, "irmonger," of London, for goods. They say that they are not guilty, and put themselves on the country. The jury find Nicholas Martyn to be guilty, and he is condemned to stand on the pillory. The jury find Richard Janyn not guilty, and he is acquitted.

Fo. 70.

Qualit' maior clamat servire d'no Regi in die sue coronacionis.

Be it remembered that now, to wit on the Feast of the Apostles Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], in the eighth year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth after the conquest [A.D. 1429], there came to Westminster before the illustrious Prince Sir

[1] Chesterfield. | [2] Co. Linc.

Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, &c., Steward of England, the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and citizens of London, claiming by word of mouth through the Recorder of the said City, according to the liberties and customs of the City aforesaid, that the said Mayor, by virtue of his office of the Mayoralty, may serve in his own person the lord the King, on the day of his coronation, as well in the hall at his dinner as after dinner in the Chamber for spices (*ad species*),[1] ~~for~~ a reward of a royal cup of gold,[2] with and when he retires from the feast of the said lord the King may have and carry away with him the said cup together with a ewer (*aquarium*) of gold for his fee; and that other citizens who should be elected for the purpose by the City aforesaid may serve on that day magnates and others in the office of butler, in aid of the Chief Butler,[3] as well at table in the hall during dinner as after dinner in the Chamber, and that the said Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Recorder may sit on the said day of coronation during dinner at the principal table on the left side of the hall of the said lord the King. They pray to be allowed to render the said services and to obtain their seats, and also to carry away the fee in manner aforesaid, as the Mayors, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and citizens of the said City their predecessors hitherto have been accustomed from time, &c.

Fo. 70 b. Petition by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons to the King

[1] In the claim put forth in English on the occasion of the coronation of Edward IV. (Letter-Book L, fo. 4) the clause runs thus: "after mete in such place as it shal please his highnesse to take his spices of wyne in a cup of gold." The editor of the 'Liber Custumarum,' which records the coronation claims of Richard II. (ii. 456-82), wrongly interpreted *Camera ad spec'* as *Camera ad speculum*.

[2] A sketch of the cup and covercle which William Estfeld, the Mayor, presumably received on this occasion, and which he bequeathed in 1445 to his grandson, John Bohun, is given in the margin. See his will in 'Cal. of Wills, Court of Husting,' ii. 509.

[3] At one time it was the practice to elect twelve citizens from the twelve great Livery Companies to assist the Mayor as Chief Butler at royal coronations, but this custom was not founded on any peculiar right, as it was always open for the Mayor and Aldermen to select the whole or any part of that number from the general body of the citizens. See Report to Common Council, 18 Aug., 1831 (printed).

In parliamento. Peticio Civitatis pro apprenticiis juxta antiquum modum capiendis.

that every free person (*persone*) of the City may put his son or daughter as apprentice with any free man (*homme*) of the same; also that every free man of the City may take as apprentice the son or daughter of any such person, notwithstanding an article of a statute made at Westminster, anno 7 Henry IV., to the effect that no man nor woman shall place their son or daughter as apprentice in any city or town unless they [*i.e.*, the parents] have land or rent to the value of 20*s.* by the year, and that no apprentice be received otherwise.[1]

Consimile mandatum miss' fuit cuilibet Aldermanno.

Precept to the Aldermen to hold their Wardmotes and to refer such matters as they were themselves unable to remedy to the General Court, to be held on Monday after the Epiphany; further, to take precautions against disturbances, to levy fines on defaulters for the use of the Guildhall, and to cause a certain number of each Ward to be elected to the Common Council, &c. Dated 3 Dec., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Fo. 71.

Inquisicio pro quodam ten' vocat' le Cage pertin' Thome filio Joh'is Coventre.

30 Aug., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], inquisition held before Henry Bartone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, as to particulars of the property held by John Coventre,[2] late Alderman, at the time of his death, who was his heir, &c. The jurors—viz., William Hervy, John Coltone, Richard Parkeman, Adam Boke, John Segeford, Thomas Baker, William Lye, Thomas Frary, Robert Bette, John Coventre, John Pecok, and John Chadde—find (*inter alia*) that John Coventre died seised of a tenement called "le Cage" in the parish of St. Mary le Bow, which he held of the King in free burgage as the whole City is held; they further say that he died on Tuesday after Easter [27 March], 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], and that Thomas his son is his heir; also that Richard, brother of the said John, is tenant of the said tenement, which is of the yearly value of 21 marks, but by what title, &c., they do not know.

[1] Their prayer was granted, and cap. xvii. of Stat. 7 Henry IV. was repealed by Stat. 8 Henry VI., cap. xi. 'Statutes at Large,' i. 477, 547. Cf. *supra*, p. 87.

[2] Mercer, Alderman of Aldgate Ward, Sheriff 1416-17, Mayor 1425-6, married to Alice Brome, to whom a monument was set up in the church of St. Dunstan in the East. Stow's 'Survey' (Kingsford's ed.), i. 134; cf. *infra*, p. 107.

Exon'acio assaiator' corii ab assisis et juratis.

1 June, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], Richard Baret, Thomas Atte Fan, Richard Beaumond, Henry Bronde, Masters of the Mistery of Cordwainers, discharged by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to their being so much occupied in searching and assaying leather, exposed for sale in the City, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Licencia edificandi concess' Rectori Sc'i Michael' ad blad'.

22 March, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429-30], licence granted by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen and Commonalty to Sir John Craas, the Rector, and the parishioners of the church of St. Michael le Quern to enlarge the said church on a part of the common soil of the City as prescribed.[1]

Fo. 71 b.

Com'issio pro duab' xv^mis et duab' decimis integris.

Letters patent appointing Ralph Bartone, Robert Large, John Bitterden, and Richard Osbarn to be Commissioners for levying in the City the subsidy recently granted by Parliament.[2] Witness the King at Westminster, 20 Dec., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Consi'les bille misse cuil't Aldr'o pro una integra quintadecima [sic].

Precept to the several Aldermen to take steps for the making of an assessment in their Wards for the purpose of levying the above subsidy. Dated 26 Dec., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Fo. 72.

L're principalium civitatum Prucie de faciendo barell' et al' vasa pro allec' imponend' justa et recta.

Letter from the authorities of the chief towns of Prussia, assembled at "Mariemburg," to the Mayor and Aldermen, &c., of the City, complaining of the deficient measure of barrels in which herrings are exported. Dated at "Mariemburg," 14 Feb., A.D. 1409 [*sic*].

Com'issio de arrestand' Canonicos apostantes etc.

Writ to William Estfelde, the Mayor, bidding him to arrest, if found in the City, Roger Bukke and Henry Ciprian, Canons of the Augustinian Monastery of Waltham Holy Cross, who were wandering at large to the discredit of their Order. Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, the Guardian of England, at Westminster, 5 Sept., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430].

[1] Stow observes that the church was "new builded and enlarged in the yeare 1430, the eight of Henry the sixt." 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 342.

[2] Met on the 22nd Sept. On the 12th Dec. it granted a subsidy of a fifteenth and a tenth, and on the 20th a like sum. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 336, 337.

Pursuant to the above, the said Mayor afterwards arrested the aforesaid apostate Canons within the precinct of St. Martin, in the house of John Belle, the Warden of the precinct, where they were secretly living in the hope that the place was privileged,[1] which it was not, as certified by the Lords of the Council appointed to hear the matter, &c. The said Canons were therefore handed over to the Abbot of the said Monastery.[2]

Fo. 72 b.

De dote signata.

30 Jan., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429-30], judgment given by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen for Alice, widow of John Coventre, late Alderman, to receive an annual sum of 7 marks 4*s.* 5*d.* as her dower in respect of the tenement called "le Cage," in the parish of St. Mary le Bow.[3]

Acquitance fait p' le Maior as marchantz des villes Damieux Corby et Neel.

Acquittance under the Mayoralty seal by William Estfeld, the Mayor, for the sum of 50 marks paid by Henry Tasse, attorney of John de Morviller of Amiens, in respect of the "composition" made between the City of London and the merchants of the towns of Amiens, Corby, and Neel. Dated 1 April, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Consimilis bill' miss' fuit cuilibet Aldermanno.

Precept to the Aldermen to assess and levy in their respective Wards their quota towards the sum of 5,000 marks lately granted by the Common Council to the King for his first voyage, the same to be repaid out of the next fifteenth. Dated 14 April [A.D. 1429].

Fo. 73.

Br'e collector' xv^me^ in com' Surr' de non compellend' cives London' ad sol' xv ib'm pro merem' et petr'.

Writ to the collectors of fifteenths and tenths in the county of Surrey and their sub-collectors in the town of Croydon that they cease to exact payment from Robert Colbroke and William Trymnell, Wardens of the fabric of London Bridge,

[1] The evidences adduced on this occasion by the civic authorities in support of their claim to exercise jurisdiction within the precinct of St. Martin le Grand are set out *infra*, fos. 120 b-122 b.

[2] Alfred Kempe, the author of 'Historical Notices of the Church of St. Martin le Grand,' sets out a writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs bidding them to respect the liberties of the precinct and to restore the Canons to sanctuary, and this order, he concludes, was "reluctantly obeyed by the citizens of London." The record here shows his surmise to be incorrect. He has, however, been followed by the writer on St. Martin le Grand in Vol. I. of the Victoria County History relative to London (p. 561).

[3] Cf. *supra*, p. 105.

John Carpenter, executor of the will of Richard Whityngton, and Thomas Moysaunt, William Coupere, and John Gylle, citizens of London, who temporarily held divers small houses and parcels of land in the said town wherein to store timber and stone, inasmuch as the said timber and stone were intended for buildings in the City, where they paid their share of every tallage with their fellow-citizens. Witness the King at Westminster, 13 Jan., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429-30].

Emancipacio filior' Isnardi Cataigne m'cator' Janue

Certificate by John Chesham, a public notary, that Isnard Cataigne, merchant of Janua, had, in the presence of the Mayor, manumitted his sons, Gregory, Lazarus, and Laurence, on the 28th Nov., A.D. 1429.

Fo. 73 b.

Presentacio d'ni Joh'is Leget ad unam Cantariam in Capella Guyhalde.

Letter from William Estfeld, the Mayor, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to William [Grey], Bishop of London, presenting Sir John Leget, a chaplain of York diocese, for admission to one of the five chantries founded in the chapel of St. Mary the Virgin near the Guildhall by Adam Fraunceys and Henry Frowyk, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Laghtone. Dated 20 Nov., A.D. 1429.

£x conc' Joh'i Carp' ad t' vite in recomp'.

Grant by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Commonalty to John Carpenter, Common Clerk of the City, of an annual rent of £10 for life. Dated in the Chamber of the Guildhall, 13 Feb., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429-30].

Un haultpace graunte a W. Estfeld par le Rent dune verge et une rose pur le Mair au Pentecost.

Licence granted by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty to William Estfeld, mercer, to build a halpace for a chapel outside his house up to the end of the Common Hall, called the Guildhall, in manner prescribed, he rendering annually therefor on the day of Pentecost, to the Mayor for the time being, a rod suitably ornamented with a red rose on the top, to be carried in manner accustomed before the Mayor when proceeding from the church of St. Peter, Cornhill, to the minster of St. Paul, and there to be offered according to ancient custom of the City.[1]

[1] For particulars of this procession, which took place on Whit Monday, see 'Liber Albus' (Rolls Series), i. 29.

Exon'acio Thome Walsingham ab omnib' officiis etc.

22 April, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], Thomas Walsyngham, vintner, lately elected Alderman of the Ward of Castle Baynard, discharged from serving by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, owing to his being so much occupied in the King's service, and also in consideration of his having undertaken to glaze, in the best manner, the eastern gable or window of the Guildhall.

Fo. 74.

Exon'acio Will'mi Kent ab assisis.

16 June, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], William Kent, "pewtrer," son of Richard Kent, draper, discharged by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to his infirmities.

Consi'lis billa missa fuit cuilibet Aldr'o.

Precept to the Aldermen that they keep an armed watch in their several Wards on the nights and eves of St. John Bapt. [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], and that they take precautions against fire. Dated 10 June, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430].

Translacio Walt'i Lucy de Mistera Cultellar' in Mister' Haberdassherie.

8 Oct., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], came Walter Lucy, cutler, before William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed how he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the art of Cutler, and was sworn *temp.* John Fraunceys, Mayor, and Stephen Speleman, Chamberlain, viz., on the 11th July, 2 Henry IV. [A.D. 1401], and how for a long time past he had been using the Mistery or Art of Haberdasher and not the Mistery of Cutler, as was testified. He prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Mistery of Haberdasher. His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the Mistery of Haberdasher.

Record' pro Edwardo Gisors.

Licence granted by the Mayor and Aldermen to Edward Gisors to enclose a parcel of land, his private property, on the bank of the Thames near the common soil at the end of Grenewichlane[1] in Dougate Ward, which had been blocked up

[1] In 1343 a jury found (*inter alia*) that this lane was a common highway. 'Liber Cust.,' ii. 449. Touching this lane, Stow remarks that "in Thames streete, on the Thames side west from Downegate, is Greenewitch lane of olde time so called, and now Frier lane of such a signe there set up. In this lane is the Joyners Hall and other faire houses." ('Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 231-2.)

by filth cast thereon, on consideration of his leaving a public way on the common soil as broad as the said lane; and further, that he may enjoy the solar that he built over the said public way as compensation for the way granted by him on his own ground towards the public latrine, provided he leaves sufficient room for a cart to pass under it. [No date.]

Ordinacio pro novo conduct' rep'and' et emendand'.

The eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], ordinance by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, at the request of the Commonalty, to the effect that the new conduit in Westchepe near the east end of the church of St. Michael le Quern[1] should in future be repaired at the City's expense, and that parishioners of the said church, or those living around the said conduit, should not be forced to contribute.

Fo. 74 b. 26 March, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], came the executors of Robert Mayheu, late of Shordich, in the county of Middlesex, "bruer," executor of Thomas Pernell, girdler, and delivered to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, the sum of 50 marks to be kept in trust for Robert, Richard, Martin, Cristina, and John, children of the said Robert Mayheu.

11 Nov., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], came Richard and Robert, sons of Robert Mayheu, and discharged the said Chamberlain in respect of the above money.

Fos. 74 b-75. Letters patent assigning certain moneys payable into the Exchequer to the Mayor and Commonalty, in repayment of the sum of £6,666 12*s.* 16½*d.* [*sic*] advanced by the City to the King, being a portion of the sum of £50,000 which the King's Council had been authorized to raise by the late Parliament.[2]

[1] A stone cross, known as the "old cross," which stood at the east end of this church, was pulled down, writes Stow, in 1390, "in place of which old crosse then taken downe, the said church of S. Michael was enlarged, and also a faire water conduit builded about the ninth of Henrie the sixt" ('Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 267-8). Cf. *supra*, p. 106.

[2] The Parliament which commenced to sit on the 22nd Sept., 1429, had on the following 30th Nov. authorized the Council to give security for loans to the amount of £50 000. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 339-40.

Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England,[1] at Westminster, 19 May, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430].

2 Aug., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], the custody of Richard, son of Thomas Gerard, late "pasteler," together with the sum of £10 and divers chattels, committed by William Estfeld, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Thomas Grenehille, who married Margaret, the orphan's mother, to hold the same in trust for a term of five years. Sureties, viz., John Kyllyk, William Scarburgh, and William Abraham. Fo. 75 b. *Custodia Ric'i filii Thome Gerard.*

Thursday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], ordinance by William Estfeld, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, in Common Council assembled, to the effect that all fines, fees, and amercements formerly granted for the work of the Guildhall should be continued for the same purpose for one year from Michaelmas next. *Prorogacio feodor' et finium antiquor' ad opus fabrice Guihalde.*

1 Oct., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], Richard Bures, mercer, discharged by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio Ric'i Bures ab assisis.*

12 Oct., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], Richard Polhill, skinner, similarly discharged for like cause. *Exon'acio Ric'i Polhill ab assisis.*

Letter from William Estfeld, the Mayor, to the Rector and Churchwardens of the Church of St. Botolph without Aldgate, presenting Sir Roger Gubbe, chaplain, for admission to the chantry founded in the said church by John Romeney,[2] potter, vacant by the death of Sir John Tauntoft. Dated 23 Oct., A.D. 1430. Fo. 76. *Presentacio d'ni Rogeri Gubbe ad unam cantariam in eccl'ia Sc'i Botulphi extra Algate London'.*

Letters patent appointing Ralph Bartone, Alderman, Robert Large, Alderman, John Bitterden and Richard Osebarne, to be Commissioners for levying the subsidy granted in the last Parliament. Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England, at Westminster, 28 Aug., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430]. *Br'e d'ni Regis missum collectorib' pro una quintadecima levand'.*

[1] The King had crossed over to France on the 23rd April. Gregory's 'Chron.,' p. 171. Cf. Rymer, x. 458.

[2] His will, dated 1349, was proved and enrolled the same year in the Court of Husting. 'Cal. of Wills,' i. 555.

Consil'is billa missa fuit cuil't Aldr'o pro una quintadecima colligend'.

Precept to the Aldermen to cause an assessment to be made in their several Wards for levying the above subsidy. Dated 27 Oct., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430].

Fo. 76 b.

Eleccio Walteri Chartesey et Rob'ti Large in vicecomet'.

Thursday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], in the presence of William Estfeld, the Mayor, John Simond the Recorder, Thomas Knollys, William Crowmere, Henry Bartone, Thomas Fauconer, William Caumbrigge, John Gedney, Ralph Bartone, John Welles, Simon Seman, John Brokle, Robert Ottele, and William Melreth, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs—Walter Chartesey was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Robert Large the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Bederenden, draper, was elected City Chamberlain; Robert Colbrok, "irmonger," and William Trymnell were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and Henry Frowyk and Robert Otteley, Aldermen, John Olney, mercer, William Gregory, skinner, Robert Bambourgh, and Richard Nordon, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted before the Barons of the Exchequer at Westminster.

Eleccio Nich'i Wottone in Maiorem London'.

Friday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], in the presence of William Estfeld, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Simond the Recorder, Henry Bartone, Thomas Fauconer, Nicholas Wottone, William Caumbrigge, Ralph Bartone, Robert Whityngham, John Welles, Thomas Wandesford, John Perneys, John Brokle, Nicholas James, Simon Seman, Henry Frowyk, Robert Otteley, John Pattesle, Stephen Broune, William Melreth, and Robert Large, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor—Nicholas Wottone was elected for the year ensuing.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, &c., and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Custodia puer' Ric'i Aylmere.

8 April, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], the guardianship of Robert, Beatrix, and Johanna, children of Richard Aylmere, late mercer, together with their patrimony and silver plate, committed by William Estfeld, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Johanna, widow of the said Richard, for a term of five years. Sureties, viz., Robert Fitz Robert, John Bostone, William Rustone, and Hugh Wyche.

Afterwards, viz., on the 18th Aug., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], came the above Robert, being of full age,[1] into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony.

Fo. 77.

Exoneracio Joh'is Tyse ab assisis juratis etc.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs bidding them to discharge John Tyse from serving on juries, &c., inasmuch as he was a Comptroller, a Moneyer (*campsor*), and Assayer of money in the Tower. Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England, at Westminster, 12 Oct., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430].

Custodia pueror' Thome Mersshe.

31 May, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], the guardianship of Thomas, Katherine, and Thomas [*sic*], children of Thomas Mersshe, late taverner, together with their patrimony and silver plate, committed by William Estfeld, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Agnes their mother for a term of five years. Sureties, viz., Richard Marbultone and Thomas Ive.

Br'e q'd o'es h'entes xl librat' t're vel reddit' ordinem suscipiant militar'.

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all persons within their bailiwick who had 40 librates of land or rent yearly for three whole years, and were not already Knights, to take up the order of Knighthood by the octave of Michaelmas next, under penalty. Witness the King at Westminster, 26 Feb., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429-30].

[1] He was then thirty years of age.

Return' ejusd'm br'is. The above writ was delivered to Robert Large and Walter Charteseye, Sheriffs, by Ralph Holand and William Rus, the late Sheriffs, on their going out of office.

Return made to the above writ.[1]

Fo. 77 b. *Exon'acio Rob'ti Warn' ab omnimodis officiis etc.* The eve of St. Andrew, Ap. [30 Nov.], 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], Robert Warner discharged by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, in Common Council assembled, from serving as Taxer, Assessor, Collector, Constable, Scavager (*Scawageator*[2]), or in any other capacity for the City, in recognition of his having served the City in divers offices for thirty-six years and of his infirmities.

Ordinacio sup' abjudicat' trium Abrocar' ne quis cum eis intromittat sub pena. The said day and year [*sic*] it was ordained by the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty that Francus Vanelly de Lucha, Gerard Galgenetti de Lucha, and Frederic Nairsreo, foreign brokers, should cease to act as brokers, inasmuch as they had often been fined and imprisoned for falsifying wine and committing other frauds.

Afterwards, viz., on the 29th Nov., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], the ordinance forbidding the above foreigners to act as brokers was confirmed in the Common Council, with the addition that if any of them was convicted in future of acting as a broker he should be imprisoned for a year; and further, that he, and any one dealing with him, should be fined 100*s*.

Fo. 78. *La ordeignaunce des Cordewaners et Ceinturers.* 13 March, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429-30], ordinance by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, to the effect that thenceforth all hides and leather should be assayed by four Cordwainers and three Girdlers, or by two Cordwainers and one Girdler, who should mark such as were found properly tanned with their respective marks, and present such as were wrongly tanned to the Mayor and Aldermen for the time being. Provided always that the knife (*cotew*) used for cutting and

[1] The return is in common form as set out in 'Cal. Letter-Book F,' p. 105. Cf. 'Liber Albus,' i. 191-2, 193.

[2] The more usual form of the word is *scawagerius*, meaning the officer who superintended the taking of the toll due on foreign merchandise coming into the City known as *scawang* or *scavage*. *Vide infra*, fo. 134. Cf. 'Liber Albus,' i. 223.

putting into the hides and leather for the purpose of assay be put into them by the Cordwainers only, according to ancient custom, and this in the presence of the said Girdlers; and thenceforth neither of the said Misteries is to act without the other, under penalty.

Custodia Thome filii Joh'is Coventre nup' civis et merceri Lon-don'.

12 Sept., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429], the custody of the sum of £400 in respect of a certain tenement called "le Cage," in the parish of St. Mary le Bow, appraised by a jury at 21 marks by the year, as appears *supra*, fo. lxxi, the property of Thomas, son of John Coventre, late mercer, committed by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Richard Coventre, mercer, brother of the said John. Sureties, viz., William Melreth, John Olney, John Estmond, mercer, and John Brokour, skinner.

Afterwards, viz., on the 28th Aug., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], came the above orphan, being of full age, and acknowledged satisfaction for the money.

Fo. 78 b.

Licencia Regia concessa Joh'i Carpent' ad fundand' cant' sup' le Char-nell.

Letters patent permitting John Carpenter, executor of Richard Whityngtone, late mercer, to found a chantry in the poor chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary over the charnel house (*super ossamenta mortuorum*) in St. Paul's Churchyard, and to endow the same to the extent of 8 marks per annum;[1] and further, to assign the advowson of the chantry to William Estfeld, the Mayor, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, for the time being, and their successors. Witness the King at Westminster, 12 Jan., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429-30].

Custodia tam corp'is Will'i Reynwell quam cc marc' et alior' bonor' eid'm Will'o legator'.

12 March, 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429–30], the guardianship of William, son of Thomas Reynwell, late fishmonger, together with his patrimony, plate, and chattels, committed by William Estfeld, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Reynwell, Alderman. Sureties, viz., John Higham, draper, William Combes, Thomas Badby, and William Sampsone, fishmongers.

[1] "Moreover in the yeare 1430, the eight of *Henrie* the sixt, licence was granted to *Janken Carpenter* (executor to *Richard Whittington*) to establish upon the said charnell a chaplaine, to have eight marks by the yeare."—Stow's 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 329-30.

Fos. 79–83 b. A statute passed in the Parliament which commenced to sit at Westminster on the morrow after the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].[1]

Fo. 84. Letter from the King to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commune of the City asking for a loan of 10,000 marks, that sum being more helpful to him in his present necessity than peradventure double or more would be at another time when his need were less. Dated at Rouen, 10 Nov. [A.D. 1430].[2]

Custodia Joh'is filii David Galganet. 15 June, 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], the guardianship of John, son of David Galganet, together with his patrimony, committed by John Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John de Marcanovo, merchant. Sureties, viz., Thomas Catworth, grocer, and William Rus, goldsmith.

Afterwards, viz., on the 14th Oct., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], came the above John de Marcanovo, and delivered to John Galganet his patrimony.

Fo. 84 b. *Ordinacio contra fallaces probaciones ab antiquo usitat' unica manu nunc per Will'm Est-feld Maiorem et Aldr'os civitatis London' det'minat' est q'd quil't petens in aliqua bill' probacionis de cetero juret vii^tem manib'.* 12 Feb., 8 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429-30], ordinance by the Common Council that thenceforth no one wishing to claim any property as his own by deed or gift of a defaulting debtor should do so by his own hand alone,[3] as hitherto accustomed, but should call at least six other trustworthy persons to support his claim; and further, that any one wishing to convey his goods to another for reasonable and just cause shall come into the Court of the lord the King or other public place before the Mayor and Recorder, or one of them, and at least one Alderman, and there make oath that the conveyance is not for the purpose of defeating his creditors, and the deed shall be placed on record. The grantee, in case the property should be

[1] Printed in 'Statutes at Large' (ed. 1758), i. 538-58. This statute (as already noted *supra*, p. 105) restored to the citizens their ancient freedom in placing and receiving apprentices. It is also important for its further regulation of the elections of knights of the shires, fixing the 40*s*. freehold as the qualification for voting (cap. vii.). 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 350.

[2] Set out in 'London and the Kingdom,' iii. 372-4.

[3] In other words, his own testimony on oath, without corroboration, would no longer be deemed sufficient. Cf. 'Liber Albus,' i. 521; 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' pp. 73, 128; 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 402; Bateson, 'Borough Customs' (Selden Soc.), i. 184.

afterwards attached as belonging to another, may then prove his ownership on oath by one hand only, as formerly accustomed, provided the property be not in the hands of the donor's wife (*donatoris uxoris*) or servant, when seven hands shall be necessary; or the ownership may be tried by a jury, if a plaintiff wishes to prove that the ownership was with the aforesaid donor (*in prefato donante*) at the time of attachment. No one shall be allowed to impugn the record enrolled of fraud or collusion, but the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen shall exercise caution before admitting a document for enrolment.

Fo. 85.

Consil'is Billa missa fuit cuilibet Aldr'o.

Precept to the Aldermen to hold Wardmotes in their respective Wards, and refer such matters as they could not themselves redress to the General Court to be held by the Mayor at the Guildhall on Monday next after the Epiphany [6 Jan.]; also to take steps for the preservation of the peace, for cleansing and lighting the streets, &c., and further to cause an election to be made of a certain number of freemen of their Wards to serve on the Common Council. Dated 12 Dec., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430].

Presentacio d'ni Tho'e Hore ad Cantariam Guyhalde.

Letter from Nicholas Wotton, the Mayor, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to William [Grey], Bishop of London, presenting Thomas Hore, chaplain, for admission to one of the five chantries founded in the Chapel of the Blessed Mary near the Guildhall by Adam Fraunceys and Henry Frowyk, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Newenden. Dated 13 Jan., A.D. 1430[-1].

Exon'acio Ade Aleyn ab assisis.

26 Jan., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1], Adam Aleyn, "lynenwebbe," discharged by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Consi'le mandatum missum fuit cuil't Aldermanno.

Precept to the Aldermen to cause an armed watch to be kept in their several Wards on the nights and eves of St. John the Baptist [24 June] and the Apostles SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], and to take precautions against fire. Dated 12 June, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431].

Proclamacio fc'a erga Festu m Nat' Sc'i Joh'is Baptiste etc.

Precept for proclamation to be made forbidding vintners, taverners, cooks, &c., to keep their house open after 10 o'clock on the nights and eves of the above Festivals, or to open them before 6 o'clock in the morning, under penalty of fine and imprisonment.

Fo. 85 b.

Custodia pueror' Rad'i Skynnard una cum ccc marcis eisdem legatis.

19 July, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], the guardianship of Henry, William, and Elizabeth, children of Ralph Skynnard, late skinner, together with their patrimony, committed by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Elizabeth, the orphans' mother, for a term of five years. Sureties, viz., Ralph Holand, John Olney, mercer, John Ray, and Hugh Somervyle, skinner.

Afterwards, viz., on the 18th March, 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437-8], came the above Henry, being then of full age, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony.

Afterwards, viz., on the 18th July, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came the above William, being then of full age, and similarly acknowledged satisfaction.

Afterwards, viz., on the 22nd March, 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], came the above Henry and William before Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for the patrimony of their sister Elizabeth, who when under age had entered religion and become professed in the monastery of the Virgin Mary and St. Bridget at Syon.[1]

Acquietacio Cam'ar' de omnib' terr' et ten' p'tin' Elizabet Turk.

17 July, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], came Edward Fitz Symond, esquire, who, with the consent of the Court, had married Elizabeth, one of the daughters of [*blank*] Turk, an orphan, and acknowledged satisfaction for his wife's property.

Custodia decem marcar' p'tinent' Joh'i filio Jacobi Bramptone.

15 June, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], the custody of the sum of 10 marks bequeathed to John, son of James Bramptone, by William Bramptone, father of the said James, committed by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John

[1] This convent was particularly favoured by the City, the Mayor and Aldermen paying it an annual visit at what was known as "the pardon time of Sion," in the month of August. In return for the hospitality bestowed by the lady abbess on these occasions, the Court of Aldermen occasionally made her presents of wine. See 'London and the Kingdom,' i. 391 n.

Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Stephen Salman, draper. Sureties, viz., Elias Twier and William Rerysby, drapers, Nicholas Draytone, mercer, and Nicholas Gwillo, "upholder."

Fo. 86.

Licencia Regis concessa Maiori et Cam'ar' ad distringend' pro quodam reddit' quatuor marc' ad op' p'son' de Neugate.

Letters patent reciting that whereas it had been shown by John Carpenter, executor of Richard Whityngtone, that John Pulteney, knight, by will enrolled in the Husting on Monday before the Feast of St. Luke [18 Oct.], 23 Edward III. [A.D. 1349],[1] had granted certain lands and tenements to the Master and Chaplains of the Chapel of Corpus Christi, near the Church of St. Laurence de Candelwykstrete, on condition that they paid 4 marks annually, in manner prescribed, to the prisoners in Neugate; that this sum had continued to be paid until the prison was rebuilt in accordance with the will of the said Richard, but had now ceased owing to the testament of the said Richard giving no power of distress—the King, therefore, with the assent of Parliament,[2] hereby authorizes the Mayor and Chamberlain for the time being to distrain the above 4 marks whenever necessary. Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England, at Westminster, 12 Jan., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1].

Fo. 86 b.

Concessio fact' Joh'i Carpenter de domo etc.

Lease granted by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and the whole Commonalty of the City, to John Carpenter junior, Clerk of the Commonalty of the City, and Katherine his wife, of a parcel of land and ancient shops in the parish of St. Peter de Cornhill, in the Ward of Lime Street, situate between the garden of the lord de la Zouche[3] and a tenement belonging to the said church of St. Peter on the east side, and nine shops which Thomas Moisaunt, "carpenter," lately built, and a close called "le Tymberhawe"[4] on the west; to hold the same for a

[1] See 'Cal. of Wills, Court of Hust.,' i. 609.

[2] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 370-1.

[3] Stow mentions a messuage or tenement on Cornhill as having belonged to Lord Zouch, on the site of which a house was afterwards erected, with a high tower that overlooked the City, by Richard Wethell or Whethill, a merchant-taylor ('Survey,' Kingsford's ed., i. 151).

[4] An enclosed place for storing timber. There was a similar close belonging to John Wolfey in the parish of St. Giles, Cripplegate ('Cal. of Wills,' ii. 385). Cf. "Timberhithe," in the parish of St. Mary Somerset (Stow, 'Survey,' ii. 10).

term of 80 years, at an annual rent for the first 30 years of a red rose at Midsummer, if demanded, and of 20*s.* yearly for the rest of the term. Dated 23 Feb., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1].

De x marc' concess' ad Ricardum Bridlyngtone.

Grant by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty to Ralph Holand, John Bederenden, John Carpenter, Thomas Knolles junior, William Holgrave, Richard Osbarn, John Birker, Thomas Osbarn, Robert Fenescalles, Thomas Suttone, and John Olney of an annual rent of 10 marks charged on the lands and tenements of the Commonalty, in trust to pay the same to Richard, son of Thomas Brydlyngtone, late tailor, for life. Dated 15 April, 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1429].

Fo. 87.

Una toga de lib'ata Maioris concessa Thome Bridlyngtone ad t'minum vite.

The same day the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty agreed that the above Richard Bridlyngton should receive during his lifetime, yearly at Christmas, from the Chamberlain for the time being, a gown of the suit and livery of the Serjeants of the Mayor and of the Chamber.

Concessio wharvi S'ci Pauli fact' Decano et Capit lo pro x*s. per ann.*

Grant by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Commonalty, to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, of the City's deserted wharf situate in the parish of St. Benedict near to the wharf belonging to the said Dean and Chapter;[1] to hold the same on a renewable lease for a term of 99 years, with the view to the said wharves being rebuilt with a free course for water descending to the river, at an annual rent of 10*s.* Dated 28 Sept., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430].

Fo. 87 b.

P'sentacio d'ni Rothelandi Archebaude ad unam cantariam in eccl'ia S'ci Swithini.

Letter under the Mayoralty seal from Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and John Simond the Recorder, to William [Gray], Bishop of London, presenting Rotheland Archebaude of the Diocese of Worcester, chaplain, for admission to the chantry at the altar of SS. Katherine and Margaret in the Church of St. Swithin, founded by Roger Depham, late Alderman, and vacant by the death of Walter Pacy, the last chaplain.[2] Dated 15 July, A.D. 1431.

[1] Paul's Wharf.

[2] See 'Calendar Letter-Book I,' pp. 129n., 171.

Exoneracio Ferronum ab assisis Juratis etc.

1 June, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], precept issued by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, for certain reasons [not specified], to the Sheriffs and their officers, to abstain in future from summoning any ironmongers (*ferrones*), called horse-farriers (*marescallos equorum*), to serve on juries, &c., except in cases of urgent necessity.

Acquitaunce fait as m'chauntz Damieux.

Acquittance by the above Mayor for the sum of 50 marks received from Jaquot Clabout, merchant of Amiens, pursuant to the "composition" made between the City and merchants of Amiens, Corby, and Neel. Dated 20 July, A.D. 1431.

Exon'acio Thome "Beaumount."

27 Oct., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], Thomas "Bemond," salter, discharged by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 88.

Custodia Matild' filie Joh'is Walter.

14 July, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], the guardianship of Matilda, daughter of John Walter, late "pouchemaker," together with her patrimony, committed by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, for a term of five years to William Newham, who married Alice, the orphan's mother. Sureties, viz., Richard Panter, William Elfem, and John Champeney.

Custodia Joh'is filii Joh'is Hauk etc.

22 Feb., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428–9], the guardianship of John, son of John Hauk, late "irmonger" (William, Johanna, and Clemence, other children of the said John, being dead), together with his patrimony, committed by Henry Bartone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, until the said orphan shall come to full age, to Richard Lyndesay, scrivener, who married Agnes, the orphan's mother. Sureties, viz., Thomas Bataille, mercer, Richard Grove, "armurer," and Martin Aleyn, "letherseller."

Transmutacio Ric'i Davy ab arte de Peyntours in artem de Steynours.

15 Sept., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], came Richard Davy, of co. Gloucester, painter, before Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that, whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the art of Painters (*Pictorum*) *temp.* Thomas Fawconer, Mayor, and John Proffyt, Chamberlain, viz., on the 15th May,

3 Henry V. [A.D. 1415], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of "Steynours," as the Masters and others of the art of Painters testified.[1] He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the art of "Steynours." His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said art, viz., William Hygyne, Edmund Hermer, William Gynore, Thomas Fynyngham, William Edward, Simon Taillour, and others [not named].

Fo. 88 b. *Collectorib' quint'.*

Letters patent directed to Robert Otteley, grocer, John Paddesley, goldsmith, Robert Marschall, grocer, and William Cantelowe, mercer, bidding them summon four men from each Ward to levy the subsidy granted in the last Parliament.[2] Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England, at Westminster, 22 Sept., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431].

Precept under the Mayoralty seal to the Aldermen to cause good men in their several Wards to be elected for the purpose of levying the above subsidy. Dated 24 Oct., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431].

Permutacio cum uno capellanor' Gihalde.

Letter from Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, to Robert [Fitz Hugh], Bishop of London, presenting John Love, Rector of the parish church of "Aspylegyse,"[3] in the diocese of Lincoln, for admission to one of the five chantries founded by Adam Fraunceys and Henry Frowik in the chapel of the Blessed Mary, near the Guildhall, in place of John Leget, who exchanges benefice. Dated 4 Oct., A.D. 1431.

Fo. 89. *Presentacio d'ni Joh'is Melford capell'i ad cantar' in eccl'ia Sc'i Pauli London'.*

Letter from Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, presenting John Melford, chaplain of the diocese of Ely, for admission to the chantry of Sir Henry de

[1] It is to be noted that the Painters and the Stainers originally formed distinct Guilds. At the present day they form but one Company, known as "Painters, otherwise Painter Stainers." Stow, however, writes that of *old time* they were called Painter Stainers, "but now [*i.e.*, at the close of the sixteenth century] that workmanship of stayning is departed out of use in England" ('Survey,' Kingsford's ed., ii. 3-4).

[2] The Parliament which met on the 22nd Sept., 1429.

[3] Aspley-Guise, co. Beds.

Guldeford, called "le Marescall," clerk, at the altar of the Apostles in the church of St. Paul, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Bovetone, the last chaplain there. Dated 16 March, A.D. 1430[-1].

Eleccio Joh'is Atherle et Steph'i Broun vic'.

Friday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], in the presence of Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, John Symond, the Recorder, Thomas Knolles, William Crowmere, Thomas Fauconer, John Gedney, Ralph Bartone, John Welles, Robert Whityngham, John Perneys, Simon Seman, Henry Frowik, John Paddesle, Stephen Broun, Robert Large, and William Melreth, Aldermen, Walter Chertesey, one of the Sheriffs, and very many Commoners, summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, John Atherle was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Stephen Broun was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Bederenden, draper, was elected Chamberlain; Robert Colbrook, "irmonger," and William Trymnell, mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and Robert Ottele and Robert Large, Aldermen, Robert Bamburgh, Richard Nordon, Philip Malpas, and Thomas Bernwell, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Eleccio Joh'is Welles Maioris London'.

Saturday the Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], in the presence of Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, John Symond, the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Thomas Knolles, William Crowmere, Henry Bartone, Thomas Fauconer, John Gedney, William Estfeld, Ralph Bartone, John Perneys, Robert Whityngham, John Welles, Nicholas James, Simon Seman, Henry Frowik, John Brokle, Thomas Wandesford, Robert Ottele, John Paddesle, Stephen Broun, Robert Large, and William Melreth, Aldermen, John Atherle, one of the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty

summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor, John Welles was elected Mayor for the year ensuing.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Transmutacio Joh'is Beket ab arte de Tymbermonger in Misteram de Stokfisshmonger.

1 Oct., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], came John Wodman, *alias* Beket, "tymbermonger," before Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that, whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the art of "Tymbermonger" *temp.* William Crowmere, Mayor, and John Bederendene, Chamberlain, viz., on the 3rd Nov., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], he had long used, and was now using, the art of "Stokfisshmonger," and not that of "Tymbermonger." He prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted into the freedom of the City in the art of "Stokfisshmonger." His prayer granted.

Fo. 89 b.

"*Browderers.*"

On the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 10 Henry VI. A.D. 1431], came good men of the Mistery of "Brouderers" before Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the great Chamber (*la graund Chambre*) of the Guildhall, and prayed that certain articles for the regulation of their Mistery might be approved.[1] Their prayer granted.

26 Nov., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], John Caundisshe and John Mounselle sworn Masters of the above Mistery.

Fo. 90.

Ordenaunces pur Neugate et les prisoners eyns.

23 Feb., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1], ordinances made by the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Commonalty in Common Council assembled for guarding and governing the gate of Neugate, lately rebuilt out of the goods of the late noble merchant Richard Whityngtone, to the following effect:—

First, that in order to diminish the number of officers in the Compters and in Ludgate and Neugate who waste the alms of the poor prisoners, and also to curtail the charges made by

[1] The articles (which chiefly relate to the election and duties of the Masters) are more than a century older than anything mentioned in the return made by the Company to the Commission on the City Livery Companies of 1884.

porters of the Compters, it is decreed that thenceforth all prisoners who wished and ought to live by the common alms of the people should not remain in a Compter for more than a day and a night, but should be removed by the Sheriffs and their clerks to the said gate,[1] there to remain as prisoners until lawfully delivered, viz., freemen of the City and other honest persons in the chambers which have chimneys and privies near the Hall and fountain on the north part of the prison, and the free and other honest women in the like chambers on the south; that strangers (*foreins*) and others of inferior condition shall occupy less convenient chambers, whilst felons and others suspected of great crimes be safeguarded in the basement cells and strongholds on the south part of the prison, and not allowed any intercourse with other prisoners.

Also, whereas the common people suffer from the importunity of a number of persons daily soliciting alms for the prisoners, who profit little thereby owing to the large payment demanded by those so soliciting, it is decreed that in future only two couples of prisoners should solicit alms, one by the river side and the other on land, each couple having a box and saucer so marked that they may be recognized as belonging to the prison.

Also, whereas the Keepers of the prisoners and their servants often appropriate the alms given to the prisoners, it is ordained that the said boxes be sealed by one of the Sheriffs or the Chamberlain for the time being, and that their contents be used for paying the collectors and buying food and other necessaries for the prisoners every month or quarter of a year under the supervision of one of the Sheriffs, the Chamberlain, or some other trustworthy person appointed by the said Sheriff and Chamberlain.

Also, it is forbidden that any officer or servant of the prison sell any manner of victual, charcoal, candles, &c. (except beer, in manner as prescribed), but the prisoners may buy their

[1] In or about 1393 it was ordained (*inter alia*) that prisoners in certain cases might remain in the Compters, on terms, instead of being removed to Newgate or Ludgate. See 'Liber Albus,' i. 523. Cf. 'Letter-Book H, fo. cclxxxvi b.

victuals where they please;[1] and that no officer, under colour of his rent, take more for "le Tappehous" than in the old gaol, as that would be contrary to the expressed intention of the founders of the new gaol.

Fo. 90 b. Also, it is decreed that no Keeper or servant of the prison shall prevent any free man or woman from having and using their own bed, if they have one, without any charge, nor shall they take more than a penny a night for a bed with blankets and sheets, as is done at hostelries, nor more than a penny a week for a couch, or more than fourpence towards the maintenance of the prison lamps for the whole time the prisoner may be there, and if it happen that such things be provided by some charitable person, the Keeper or his servant shall charge nothing.

Also, inasmuch as the said prison is sufficiently strong, it is ordered that the Keeper and his officers shall not put any free man or woman in irons, if imprisoned for a debt of less than 100*s.*, on their finding surety (*seurte*)[2] for good behaviour; but in graver cases the Keeper may take a reasonable fee (*suette*) for removing irons, as accustomed in other prisons of the King.

Also, it is ordained that the Keeper or any of his officers shall not take for the delivery of any prisoner, unless committed for felony, more than eightpence, and in case of felony more than 2*s.*, provided always that no one committed by the Mayor, Aldermen, or Sheriffs for punishment shall pay anything for lamps, couches, *fees*, or *suettes* at his coming in or going out.

[1] By an ordinance of 1393 it appears that Porters, &c., of Compters might sell any kind of provisions, including beer, at a reasonable price and by measure (*sinoun par mesure et a resonable pris*). See 'Liber Albus,' i. 523. It is to be noted, however, that the same ordinance as recorded in 'Letter-Book H,' fo. cclxxxvi b, from which the record in 'Liber Albus' purports to have been transcribed, omits altogether the closing words *sinoun*, &c. Cf. *infra*, fo. 141.

[2] In the ordinance of 1393 the word is *suwette*, the editor of the 'Liber Albus' (i. 524, ii. 217) translating this word as "surety," whilst interpreting *suetz* as "customary fees." It is doubtful, however, if such a distinction is correct, more especially as we find here the Fr. *seurte* for "surety" more than once. See article on 'Suete de Prisone,' and its correct interpretation, by R. Stewart-Brown, in *English Hist. Review*, vol. xxiv. pp. 506-10.

Also, inasmuch as the basements and dark places often cause infection, it is ordained that the Keeper and his officers shall allow all freemen of the City and other honest persons, on their finding sufficient surety (*seurte*) for good behaviour, to go every day, at convenient times, for devotion and recreation to the Chapel and the two spacious and well-lighted chambers on each side of the Chapel, and the women to the large chamber near the Hall on the south side, without demanding any payment, but desiring them to pray devoutly for the souls of the said Richard Whityngtone and Alice his wife. Provided always that, inasmuch as the repairs of the said gate belong to the Keeper for the time being, no one shall occupy a tower or chamber in a tower, nor be allowed to walk on the leads or in the passages (*en les aleins*) of the said gate, unless he come to some reasonable agreement with the Keeper to contribute towards such repairs.

Also, whereas by charter the custody of the said gate, as of all other gates and posterns of the City, appertains to the Mayor [Aldermen] and Commons, it is ordained that the Keeper be yearly elected, and that he find surety (*seurte*) for the Sheriffs for safeguarding the prisoners, and also find surety for the Chamberlain for carrying into execution the above articles.

12 March, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1], the custody of the sum of £30 13*s.* 4*d.* bequeathed to Elias, son of Margaret Cliderowe, "silkwoman," deceased, by his said mother, committed by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, to Matthew Fouchere, mercer, to hold in trust until the said orphan shall come of age. Sureties, viz., John Olney, William Cavendisshe, Robert Damyon, and Thomas Tikhyll, mercers. Fo. 91.

Translacio Joh'is Bartholomewe "haburdascher."

2 Jan., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431–2], came John Bartholomewe, haberdasher, before John Welles, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Haberdashers *temp.* Robert Chichele, Mayor, and John Bederendene, Chamberlain, viz., on the 12th Nov., 9 Henry V.

[A.D. 1421], he had for long time past used, and was still using, the mistery or art of Powchemakers and not that of Haberdashers. He prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art or Mistery of Powchemakers. His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the latter Mistery.

Fos. 91-91 b. *De pace inter Angliam et Franciam.*

Writ to the Sheriffs to proclaim the terms of a peace between England and France touching friendly intercourse with Flanders,[1] a copy of which is set out. Witness the King at Westminster, 30 July, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426].

[Fos. 92–93 *blank*.]

Fo. 93 b. *Br'e contra Lollardos.*

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for stringent measures to be taken against Lollards, and for putting a stop to their seditious publications.[2] Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England, at Westminster, 13 May, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431].

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to make proclamation for all soldiers in the King's service who were to proceed to France in the retinue of William de Clynton, Knt., and Thomas Tunstall, Knt., to muster at the place appointed before 10 o'clock on Wednesday next, under penalty of forfeiting horse and harness, and imprisonment of their persons. Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England, at Westminster, 24 April, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431].

Fo. 94.

Precept to the Aldermen to hold their respective Wardmotes, and to report such matters as they could not themselves remedy to the General Court to be held at the Guildhall on Monday after the Epiphany [6 Jan.]. Defaulters to be fined fourpence for the benefit of the Guildhall. They are, further, to take steps to prevent night-walking without lights and the wearing

[1] See Rymer's 'Fœdera,' x. 367-8.

[2] The "political" Lollards were attempting to raise a rebellion, under the leadership of one styling himself Jack Sharpe, for the purpose of confiscating and appropriating the temporalities of the Church, as had been suggested in 1410. He was captured at or near Oxford a few days after the issue of this writ, and was drawn, hanged, and quartered, his head being set up on London Bridge. Gregory, p. 172; 'Chron. Lond.,' p. 119; Fabyan, p. 602.

of masks; and for lighting the streets and the preservation of the peace.[1] [No date.]

Arbitrium fact' int' partes.

14 June, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], agreement concluded by decree of the Mayor and Aldermen between John Bedham, junior, and Beatrix his wife, widow of Richard Gosselyn, late "irmonger," on the one part, and John Weston, of co. Southampton, Thomas White, and John Gretyng, executors of the said Richard, on the other, touching the amount due to the said Beatrix by way of "reasonable part"[2] of her late husband's goods, and also to her seven children by the said Richard.[3]

Fo. 94 b.

De securitate debit' Cam'ar'.

21 Jan., 9 [*sic*][4] Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2], record of proceedings in the Common Council touching the reception to be given to the King in the City on his return from France after his coronation. On consulting the Chamberlain's accounts it was found that there was not sufficient money in the Treasury to provide for his reception and to complete the rebuilding of certain tenements in the parish of St. Peter de Cornhill, near "le Ledenhall"; moreover, a poll tax for the purpose would be a great hardship, inasmuch as the City had become impoverished by the war, and the Commonalty in Common Council had ordered that a sum of £1,000 should be levied by poll as a present for the King on his arrival, and that a new livery should be provided in his honour at their own expense.

[1] Unlike former precepts since 1423, this precept contains no order for the election of members to sit on the Common Council. See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 90 n.

[2] By the custom of London, a freeman's personal estate was, on his death, divided into three parts, whereof one third went to his wife, another to his children, and the residue was at his own disposal. The shares of the wife and children were called their "reasonable" or "legitimate" part, to recover which there was at common law a writ *de rationabili parte bonorum*. See Pollock and Maitland, 'Hist. of English Law,' ii. 347 *et seq.*

[3] The will of Richard Gosselyn, dated 26 April, 1428, was proved and enrolled in the Court of Husting in June, 1433. Only six children are mentioned in the will, viz., John, Thomas, Richard, Nicholas, Johanna, and Katherine. 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 464-5. It will be seen (*infra*, p. 130) that a child named Robert was born after the testator's death.

[4] *Nono* by mistake for *decimo*.

Whereupon John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, undertook to advance the money required out of his own purse, on receiving sufficient security for its repayment. Thereupon the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty granted to him the issues and profits of the Common Beam or City Tron, let to ferm to Richard Burtone, and also of the City's tenements in the parishes of St. Botolph, near Billyngesgate, and St. Peter de Cornhill, until the money shall have been repaid. They further granted that the said Chamberlain should for ever be discharged from serving any office in the City.

A deed of security for repayment of the money advanced to the City by John Bederendene, the Chamberlain. Dated 21 Jan., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431–2].

Fo. 95. *De orphano.* 10 June, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], the executors of Richard Gosselyn, late "irmonger," and Alderman,[1] bring into court before the Mayor and Aldermen the sum of £480 left by the said Richard to be divided among his six children, viz., John, Thomas, Richard, Nicholas, Johanna, and Katherine; but upon it being shown that after the death of the testator another child named Robert was born, the court ordered that the money should be increased to £500, and that Robert should receive an equal share with the rest.

24 Jan., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2], the guardianship of John, Thomas, Richard, Nicholas, Johanna, Katherine, and of Robert (aged 3 years), children of the above Richard Gosselyn, together with the sum of £400 (part of the sum of £500 ordered by the Mayor and Aldermen), committed by John Welles, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederendene, the Chamberlain, to John Bedham, who married Beatrix, widow of Richard Gosselyn, to keep the same in trust until Easter, A.D. 1437. Sureties, viz., Thomas Badby, William Childe, John Astone, Thomas Westone, William Beaufitz, fishmongers, William Combes, "wolman," and John Sutton, junior, goldsmith.

Afterwards, viz., on the 10th July, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], came Thomas and John, sons of the above Richard Gosselyn,

[1] Castle Baynard Ward.

being of full age, and acknowledged they had received from John Chichele, the Chamberlain, the sum of £500 left to them by their father.

29 March, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], Simon Heryng, "pewtrer," discharged by John Welles, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 95 b. *Exon'acio Simonis Heryng ab assisis.*

Precept under the Mayoralty seal to the Aldermen to cause an assessment to be made in their several Wards for levying a third of a fifteenth, and to deliver the money at the Guildhall by the 10th April next. Dated 22 March, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2]. *Consi'lis billa miss' cuilibet Aldr'o.*

A letter [from the Mayor?] touching citizens dwelling outside the City sharing its burdens:—

"Right dere and Welbeloved we grete yowe well and late yow wite that where amonges other lib'tees and fraunchises of oure Cite which both we and ye be streitlich sworn to kepe and observe it is conceyned [*sic*] that all maner fre men of the said Cite wheither they duelle withynne the Cite or without shull be in lott and scotte and perteners to all maner charges of the Cite whan thei be duly requyred on peyne of losse of their said fraunchise. And al be it that be cause of youre continuel duellyng out of the Cite ye mowe nor can not be demed in trouth pertener in lott of such offices as we and other neighbours of oures dailich bere to oure grete charge withynne the Cite, yet on trust of eese and supportac'on that ye mowe do to the Cite in tyme to come ye be forborne and disported theroffe as for a while. But as nowe late amonges other of youre degree and condic'on ye be scotted and assessed in the some of xx^li^ toward the reparac'on of the walles and clensyng of the diches of the Cite whiche ben in grete perill and ruine. Wherefor we require yow be these l'res in especial that withoute excusac'on or delay ye brynge or sende un to us be the xx day of May now next folwyng the said xx^li^ or elles without doubte after thentent and special request of all the co'es made un to us bothe in their last co'e counseill and many tymes afore we shull procede to discharge yow of youre fredom as the cus- *Consi'les l're misse fuerunt diversis civib' ex^a^ civitat' manent' quor' no'ia patent in Camera de recordo.*

tume and fraunchise of the Cite asketh and as it hath also be desired for diverse stiles (?) be the lordes of the Kynges Counseill that we shulde do in many parlementes and Counseills here to fore god knowith, which have yow in his kepyng Wreten at London the xxix^{t} day of March."

13 Dec., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], order by John Welles, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty in Common Council assembled, that Thomas Donyngtone, one of the ancient Serjeants of the Chamber, shall have an annuity of 40*s.* and his clothing or livery of the same suit as the rest of the said Serjeants.

The same day the Commonalty complained that hostelers and other retailers of beer had not ceased to infringe orders made *temp.* Nicholas Wottone, the last Mayor, in spite of penalties and amercements, and prayed that heavier penalties might be ordained.

Fo. 96. *Ordinacio per Maiorem et co'ital' fact' pro vendic' servicie.*

An ordinance made accordingly, inflicting various penalties for breaking the assize. The said ordinance to come into force on the Feast of the Purification [2 Feb.] next ensuing.

Q'd indictat' in una Warde non recipiatur in alia.

Also it was ordained that whenever any suspect person came to take up his or her residence within a Ward the Constables, Beadles, or other officers of the Ward should make inquiries as to whence they come, and if they prove to have been charged with bad conduct, and are unwilling to give surety for good behaviour, that they be warned to quit the Ward within three or four days, under pain of imprisonment.

Fo. 96 b.

Letter from the merchants, echevins, and inhabitants of Paris to the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen of London, informing them of their having addressed a letter to the King of England—a copy of which is forwarded—complaining of the unhappy condition of their city since his departure, surrounded as it was by enemies, and praying him to cause the walls and fortresses of "Laigny"[1] and other towns to be levelled to the ground, otherwise they could not see how he would remain master of the realm; and, further, to mete out

[1] Lagny-sur-Marne.

justice to his enemies, and not barter with them, a method which only encourages war, and is damnable in the sight of God, and contrary to reason. [No date.] The writers proceed to ask the civic authorities to use their influence with the King to induce him to accede to their wishes. Dated at Paris ..... March [A.D. 1432].[1]

Fo. 97-97 b. *Br'e de subsidio Regi concesso.*

Letters patent appointing the Mayor, William Crowemer, Henry Bartone, and John Symond, or three of them, to make inquiry on oath as to all manors, lands, and tenements within the City and suburbs held by knight service; and to make a return of the names of such tenants as hold an entire knight's fee, or less, down to a tenth of a knight's fee, with the view of levying the subsidy of 20*s.* granted the King on the knight's fee or £20 rental by the last Parliament.[2] Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England, at Westminster, 12 April, 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431].

Fo. 98. *Officium Balliagii aquar' Thames' et Medewaye conc' Joh'i Houghton cum cs.*

14 Dec., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], William Talworth, bailiff, and under-conservator of the waters of the Thames and Medway, allowed by John Welles, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty in Common Council assembled, to retire from office, owing to infirmity, retaining a pension of 4 marks out of his salary of 100*s.*, and John Houghton appointed in his place, with the balance of the said sum of 100*s.* for his salary, so long as the said William Talworth continued to live; but upon remonstrance being made by the Duke of Gloucester (at whose instance the said John Houghton had been appointed) the full salary of 100*s.* was granted.

Br'e pro Rege Dacie.

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation of an ordinance made in the Parliament held at Westminster, anno 8 Henry VI.,[3] to the effect that merchants and others visiting Norway must not land elsewhere than at the town of

[1] Set out by Delpit, pp. 248-50.

[2] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 369. This complicated grant of land and income tax, which it was found impossible to collect, was annulled in the next Parliament. *Ibid.*, iv. 409.

[3] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 347-8: Stat. 8 Hen. VI., cap. ii. Cf. writ dated 13 May, 7 Hen. VI. [A.D. 1429], *supra*, p. 99. The statute was repealed by Stat. 1 Hen. VIII., cap. i.

Northbarn, where the King of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden had established his staple, promising merchants the same advantages as they enjoyed in the Hanse towns. Witness the King at Westminster, 1 March, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2].[1]

Fo. 98 b. Writ to the Sheriffs for the proclamation of a statute made in the last Parliament re-establishing a statute passed anno 21 Richard II., but revoked anno 1 Henry IV., to the effect that all vessels, excepting fishing boats, coming to Calais shall carry ballast of stone, to be used for maintaining "le Bekenes" outside the harbour and the place called "Paradys" near the foss of the said town, under penalty of paying 2*d.* per ton; also that all ships entering "Paradys" to lie up shall pay 4*d.*, for which sum they might stay four days and four nights, and that any vessel attached by cable or cord to the said "Bekenes" or "Paradys," or to the new quay otherwise called "querf," shall be made to pay 40*d.*[2] Witness the King at Westminster, 20 July, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432].

[Fos. 99, 99 b *blank.*]

Fo. 100. *The Marks of the following Coopers.*

Thomas Rolf, John Norys, Richard Mosehech, Robert Hynton, Thomas Pope, John Frebarn, John Beche, Thomas Balle, Walter Taylour, Richard Partriche, Henry (?) Langshot, William Bytham, William Danvers, John Heyward, John Saundre, John Englissh, Richard Fleccher, Robert Faren, William Baker, John Longe, junior, Thomas Attewell, Richard Banastre, John Fox, Simon Dame, Matthew Barbour, John Plomer, Edmund Lete, John Abbot by John Pertriche 'Gard' [Guardian ?], Simon Caryngtone, Robert Hewet, Henry Longe, John Bracher, Richard Hardgood, Hugh Soper, Richard Rauf, Richard Bartone, Simon Leem *obiit*, Christopher Lute, William Baret, Robert Fleccher, Thomas Rigman, Richard Wrenne,
Fo. 100 b. Thomas Fraunceys, William Swift, John Bacheler, William Auncell, Richard Baldok.

[1] Rymer, 'Fœdera,' x. 503-4.

[2] 'Statutes at Large,' i. 435, 437, 567; 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 405.

Fo. 101.

L'ra prepositi Parisi'.

Another letter from the merchants, echevins, &c., of Paris, to the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen of London, enclosing a second letter they had sent to the King, informing him that Paris was being threatened, that the castle of Rouen had been taken, but had been recaptured, and that the enemy had surrendered at discretion. They (the enemy) had been dealt with in such a manner that they would not trouble the King or any one else in future.[1] The writers urge him to send assistance forthwith, otherwise they would be totally lost. [No date.] They pray the civic authorities again to use their influence with the King in the matter, so that he may quickly restore peace to his realm of France. Dated at Paris, 20 March [A.D. 1432].[2]

Fos. 101 b-103.

An account of the solemn entry of King Henry VI. into Paris on Sunday, the 2nd December, 1431, to the following effect[3]:—

The King left the town of St. Denis with his retinue at 11 A.M. and arrived at the chapel of St. Denis[4] about 12 P.M., where he was met by the Provost, Echevins, &c., of Paris in their robes. Thence he proceeded on his way to Paris, the procession being joined by representations of the goddess Fame and nine worthies of both sexes (*ix preux et ix preuses*),[5] who bade him welcome, and prayed him to safeguard the famous City of Paris.

At the gate of St. Denis there was a shield of arms of the City bearing a silver ship under sail, and large enough to hold twelve men of three different estates, who presented

[1] One hundred and fifty of the besiegers had been promptly beheaded.

[2] Set out by Delpit, pp. 250-1. An account of the attack made by the French on the Castle of Rouen early in February, and of its repulse by the English garrison, is given by Monstrelet (trans., i. 599, 600).

[3] The account, as here recorded, is set out by Delpit, pp. 238-44. Cf. Monstrelet (trans.), i. 596-7; Hall, pp. 160-2. Delpit acknowledges that this surpasses all other accounts in its wealth of detail, and believes it to have been probably written by a member of the University of Paris, if not by the actual Master of the Ceremonies (*op. cit.*, Introd., p. clx). He ascribes its appearance in the Letter-Book to the vanity of John Carpenter, the City's Town Clerk.

[4] Or La Chapelle, half way between Paris and St. Denis.

[5] The names of the *neuf preux* as recorded in the Letter-Book differ from those given in the 'Encyclopédie,' *s.v.* 'Preux' (Supplement, vol. iv. pp. 531-2).

the King with three hearts, one of which, on opening, displayed two white doves, another small birds, and the third violets and other sweet-smelling flowers, as a sign that the hearts of the estates of the town opened for joy at the King's presence. Henry then entered Paris, where he lay at the hostel of "les Tournelles." The echevins and town clerk bore over the King's head as he passed through the streets a canopy of cloth of gold ornamented with fleurs-de-lys, which was afterwards presented to the Church of St. Katherine "du val des escoliers."

At the bridge of St. Denis there was a richly-mounted pavilion, wherein a mock battle was represented as taking place in a wood between savages—men and women.

In the passage of the Trinity there was erected a platform with live but motionless figures representing the Nativity. On another platform, at the old gate of St. Denis, there were similar figures representing incidents in the life of the Saint, his preaching, martyrdom, &c.

Throughout the high street of St. Denis ecclesiastics in their robes stood before their churches with croziers, holy water, and relics, among them being the arm of St. George, which the King reverently kissed.

At the fountain of St. Innocent there was planted a forest wherein were huntsmen and hounds, who, on the King's arrival, commenced to hunt, and a stag sprang forth and crossed the King's path, followed by the hounds, and returning to the wood was there captured.[1]

Opposite the Châtelet of Paris there was a high platform richly ornamented, on which was seated a representation of the King, over whom was a canopy, and behind him a tapestry of satin bearing the arms of France and England, whilst to the right of him was an heraldic shield of France, and to the left the shield of England. Above him there were suspended

[1] According to Monstrelet (trans., p. 597) the stag "took refuge near the feet of the King's horse, when his majesty saved its life."

in the air two crowns.[1] On either side of the King were ranged representations of the Duke of Burgundy, the Count de Nevers, the Duke of Bedford, Cardinal Beaufort, and other French and English nobles.

On another platform, a little lower down, were a large number of figures representing merchants, craftsmen, and burgesses, with the Provost of Paris at their head.

The butchers of the town presented him with a live stag caparisoned with the arms of France and England, and this they conveyed to his hostel of Tournelles.

At the gate of the palace he was welcomed by the treasurers and canons of St. Chapelle and members of the University, and at his hostel by Anne of Burgundy, Duchess of Bedford, and a great number of ladies.

The narrative concludes with the remark that on that day the streets, which for the most part were ornamented with rich hangings, were so crowded that one was hardly able to turn.

Here follows a poem of 43 lines, under the title *Complainte de Paris*, setting forth the lamentable condition of the town since the departure of the Duke of Bedford for England, and praying for reinforcements to be sent, otherwise both Paris and the whole of France would be lost.[2] Fo. 103.

A description of the reception of King Henry VI. on his return to England after his coronation at Paris as King of France, given in a letter from John Carpenter to a friend, to the following effect[3]:— Fos. 103 b-104 b.

[1] *Dessus lui deux couronnes en air.* According to Monstrelet the King bore two crowns on his head. Cf. Hall, p. 161.

[2] Set out by Delpit (pp. 238-9), who remarks that the verses show the deplorable state of Paris about the year 1431. (Introd., p. clix.) The date is probably later than this, for Bedford does not appear to have been absent from France between 1427 and 1432, unless he hurriedly came over to England in order to escort the King to Paris in April, 1430. (See Monstrelet, trans. i. 596.) The verses are an interpolation in the Letter-Book and may have been composed after Bedford left France for England at the end of June, 1433.

[3] Set out by Delpit from the Letter-Book (pp. 244-8). The French antiquary, however, does not appear to recognize the writer, *qui signe simplement Jean*, as John *Carpenter*, the City's "secretary," or Town Clerk, in his playful description of

Be it remembered that on Thursday, the 20th[1] February, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2], the King, having arrived safely in England after a stormy passage,[2] purposed honouring the City of London with his presence. Accordingly, the Mayor, twenty-four Aldermen, the Sheriffs, and twelve thousand citizens and others, mounted horse about 8 A.M., and rode out as far as Blackheath to meet the King. After a short time the King left his manor of Eltham to proceed to the City, and as soon as he appeared he was met by the Mayor and Aldermen, and the former bade him welcome in a speech.

The speech ended, the Mayor and Aldermen were graciously received by the King, who proceeded to Deptford, where he was met by 120 City rectors and curates in their richest copes, and 500 secular chaplains in white surplices. With them were 500 monks and others bearing crosses, tapers, and incense, and chanting psalms and antiphons in gratitude for his safe return.

Thence the King rode through Southwark, and at London Bridge was welcomed by pageants and a song sung by seven maids dressed in white. In Cornhill and Chepe were more pageants and allegorical figures, secular and Biblical. After being conducted to the high altar in St. Paul's and kissing the relics, he remounted his horse and made his way through Fleet Street to Westminster Palace.

On the following Saturday, the 22nd Feb. [*sic*],[3] a deputation from the City, with the Mayor and Aldermen at its head, went to the Palace and presented Henry with £1,000[4] in a gold casket, which the King graciously accepted.

himself as *Faber* or *Domifex* (Introd., p. clx). The narrative has also been printed at the end of the 'Liber Albus' (Rolls Series), ii. 457-64. The editor of that publication was aware of it having been printed by Delpit, but, as he says, "in so incorrect a form as to render it worse than valueless." The narrative as here recorded may be compared with the account given in verse by the poet Lydgate, and printed in Kingsford, 'Chronicles of London' (pp. 97-115), from Cotton MS. Julius B II.

[1] An error for the 21st Feb.

[2] He had landed at Dover on the 9th Feb.

[3] An error for the 23rd.

[4] How this amount was raised for the purpose we have already seen, *supra*, pp. 129-30.

The writer concludes by telling his friend that pressure of City business prevents him from giving further details of the King's reception by the prelates and nobles of the realm, but he would let him know later on, and he subscribes the letter thus: *Per Fabrum sive Domificem vestrum Johannem ejusdem urbis secretarium indignissimum.*

Letter from Cardinal Beaufort, "called of Engeland Bysshop of Wynchester," to his trusty and well-beloved friends John Welles, the Mayor, the Sheriffs, and Aldermen of the City of London, notifying that he had given up his intention of visiting the Court of Rome, as behoved his estate, and was about to return to England for the opening of Parliament, in order that he might learn the reasons why he had been so badly treated and to defend himself. Dated at "Gaunt," 13 April [A.D. 1432].[1] Fo. 105.

Br'e pro parliamento.

Writ to the Sheriffs to cause proclamation to be made for the election of four citizens, according to the terms of the statute passed anno 8 Henry VI.,[2] to attend a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the 12th May next. No Sheriff to be returned. Witness the King at Westminster, 25 Feb., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2].

Return made to the above by Stephen Broun and John Hatherle, the Sheriffs, that at a Husting held on ..... next before the Feast of St. Gregory [12 March], 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2], John Gedney, William Melreth [Aldermen], John Levyng, and Philip Malpas [Commoners] had been elected.

[1] Set out in 'London and the Kingdom,' iii. 374-5. During Beaufort's absence in France for the King's coronation, the Duke of Gloucester had taken measures to secure his own position whilst weakening that of his rival. When Parliament met on the 12th May the Cardinal complained that, having set out for Rome with the King's permission, he had, when in Flanders (whence this letter was dated), been recalled to England by the report that he was accused of treason, and he challenged the accuser to come forward. After some debate it was officially denied that any such charge had been made, and the matter was allowed to drop. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 390-1; Rymer, 'Fœdera,' x. 516-18.

[2] The statute is recorded *supra*, fos. 79-83 b. By cap. vii. the statute fixed the 40*s.* freehold as the qualification for voting in elections of knights of the shire.

Fo. 105 b. Writ of certiorari to John Welles, the Mayor, touching a chantry founded in the church of St. Vedast under the will of William Grantham, goldsmith.[1] Witness H[umphrey], Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England. [No date.]

Return made to the above after inquisition on the oaths of Michael Randolf, John Werk, William Waltone, Matthew Philipp, John Estell, John Says, William Taverner, Robert Botiller, John Parker, William Peper, Peter Route, and Thomas Barwe, setting out the terms of the testator's will. Dated 28 April, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432].

Fo. 106. *Firma concessa per civitatem.* Indenture of lease by John Welles, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty to William Bottele, tailor, of a shop and solar outside the newly built "Newgate," together with a parcel of land outside "Newgate" over the common foss of the City, lately held by Nicholas Mynot, "flecher," with metes and bounds as set out. (Mention made of the high street of "la Baillye" and the tenements of John Weymouth and Henry Hornytoft.) To hold the same for a term of 31 years, at an annual rent of 26*s.* 8*d.* Dated 3 Jan., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2].

Commissio de Newgate. Letters patent appointing John "Wellis," the Mayor, William Cheyne, Knt., William Babyngtone, Knt., John Juyn, Knt., John Hals, William Westbury, John Martyn, James Strangways, John Cotismore, William Pastone, and John Symund, or any ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, or two (the Mayor being one), to be Commissioners for gaol-delivery of Newgate. Witness Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Warden of England, at Westminster, 6 Dec., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431].

Fo. 106 b. Proclamation to be made forbidding the forcing of any one to join in "hokkyng" on Monday and Tuesday next, called "hokkedays," on pain of imprisonment and fine.

Ordinaciones de Flechers. Be it remembered that on the 5th June, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], came good folk of the Mistery of Flecchers before John Welles, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the great

[1] See his will dated 9 Sept., 1416, and proved the same year. 'Cal. of Wills, Court of Hust.,' ii. 409-410.

Chamber of the Guildhall, and exhibited for approval a bill of Articles touching the rule and governance of the said Mistery, to the following effect:—

Whereas (as shown by Richard Otehill and Thomas Scot, Wardens, and all the enfranchised good folk of the Mistery of Flecchers within the City) the servants and workmen of the said Mistery, hired to make good and lawful arrows (*settes*) and other kind of artillery[1] (*dartelrie*) for the good of the King and his people, do oftentimes work by night and in secret and change good stuff (*estuffe*) and dry wood for green wood and other false stuff, and therefrom make unserviceable arrows and other sort of artillery, to the prejudice and dishonour of the petitioners, they pray therefore:—

First, that no freeman of the Mistery shall thenceforth have a workman elsewhere than in his own house, so that his work can be overlooked, under penalty of a fine of 6*s.* 8*d.*, one moiety to go to the Chamber and the other to the Mistery.

Secondly, that no one of the Mistery shall work by night.

Their prayer granted.

Letter from John Welles, the Mayor, and John Simond, the Recorder, to Robert [Fitz-Hugh], Bishop of London, presenting Sir John Leveryngtone, a chaplain of the diocese of Ely, for admission to the chantry of Roger Depham in the Chapel of B.V. Mary near the Guildhall, vacant by the death of William Malberthorp. Dated 9 Jan., A.D. 1431[-2].

Indenture of lease by the Mayor, &c., to William Bottele, tailor, similar to that recorded *supra*, p. 140. Dated 3 Jan., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431-2]. Fo. 107

Precept for an armed watch to be kept in the several Wards on the nights and eves of St. John Bapt. [24 June] and SS. Peter and Paul [29 June], and for precautions to be taken against fire. Dated 12 June, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432]. *Preceptum erga festum Baptiste.*

Proclamation to be made forbidding vintners, taverners, hostelers, &c., to keep their houses open after 10 o'clock on the *Proclamacio erga fest' Baptiste.*

[1] Bows and arrows are termed "artillery" in the Bible. See 1 Samuel xx. 40, "Jonathan gave his artillery unto his lad."

above nights and eves, and to open them before 6 o'clock in the morning. [No date.]

Fo. 107 b. *De coriour'.* Be it remembered that on the 9th June, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], came good folk of the Mistery of "Coriours" before John Welles, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the great Chamber of the Guildhall, and prayed that an article might be placed on record forbidding curriers to exercise their calling in open houses and public places to the annoyance of passers-by, under penalty of 13*s.* 4*d.*, one half to go to the Chamber of the City and the other to the Mistery. Their prayer granted.

8 July, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], came Godfrey Martynson, weaver, before John Welles, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Weavers *temp.* John Hende, Mayor, and John Proffyt, Chamberlain, viz., in the Husting for Common Pleas held on Monday after the Feast of St. Benedict [21 March], 6 Henry V. [A.D. 1417-18], he had for long time past used, and was now using, the art of haberdasher and not of weaver; he prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art or Mistery of "Haberdassheres." His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Mistery, viz., Thomas Ruddok, Walter Holme, Walter Lucy, Richard Salle, Thomas Kyng, Richard Shalborn, and others [not named].

De afferour' pandoxator'. Ordinance to the effect that the hostelers and other retailers of beer who had been reported by the Commonalty to the Common Council on the 13th Dec., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], as having broken the assize,[1] be fined in the same manner as if they had been presented by a jury. Robert Large and John Paddesle, Aldermen, appointed affeerers (*afferatores*).[2]

Fo. 108. *De custodib' leprosor'.* John Bacoun, "grocer," and Peter Andrew, "pelter," who had been elected Wardens and Surveyors of lepers at St. Giles, "les Lokes," and at Hakeneye, discharged by John Welles, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from all manner of summons, distress,

[1] *Vide supra*, p. 132.

[2] To assess the fines.

and amercement, in consideration of their labour, expense, &c., in the exercise of their duties.[1] Dated 1 July, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432].

18 June, 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], ordinance by John Welles, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, with the assent of Richard Coventre, mercer, the guardian of Thomas, son of John Coventre, late mercer, that the said Thomas be sent to "Greyssyn"[2] to be instructed under the care of Richard Hungate until further order, and that the said Thomas be allowed the sum of 20 marks for his maintenance during such instruction. *De orphano.*

Masters of divers Misteries sworn anno 10 Henry VI. Fo. 108 b.

Haberdasshers: Thomas Ruddok, Walter Holme, Walter Lucy, sworn 6 Sept., 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431].

Foundours: William Turnour, Simon Sterne, sworn 19 Oct., the same year.

Shearmen (Tonsores): John Briggeham, John Cadewold, Richard Herberd, sworn 30 Oct., the same year.

Coriours: John Geffrey, Thomas Carter, sworn 8 Nov., the same year.

Wollen Wevers: John Cok, Thomas Chirch, sworn 22 Nov., the same year.

Shipwrightes: Thomas Kyng, William Kyffe, sworn 29 Nov., the same year.

Surgeons, Mistery or Faculty of: Thomas "Morstode," John Harwe, John Clorby, John Hatfeld, sworn 10 Dec., the same year.

Cordwainers: Thomas Burgate, Richard Rede, Nicholas Hony, Henry Marchaunt, sworn 2 June, the same year [A.D. 1432].

Lorimers: Thomas Kynge, William Aleyn, Thomas Richmounde, sworn 10 July, the same year.

Lynnewevers: William Cokenage, Thomas Chirche, sworn 20 July, the same year.

Coupers: John Rothell, John Broun, sworn 29 July, the same year.

[1] Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 343; 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 184.

[2] Gray's Inn.

Browdereres: John Sewale, William Henyngton, sworn 2 Aug., the same year.

Joynours: John Stone, John Bridde, sworn 10 Aug., the same year.

Pursers: William Stodeley, John Aldewyn, sworn 30 Aug., the same year.

Fo. 109. *Br'e pro civib' London' de theolon'.* Writ to the Treasurer of the town of Calais and Bailiffs of the water there that they cease to exact any toll from merchants of London trading there. Witness, &c., 1 Oct., 11 [Henry VI.] [A.D. 1432].

Transmutacio Ric'i Lyon ab arte de Pynner' in artem de aberdassher [sic]. 6 Nov., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], came Richard Lyon, "pynner," before John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and showed that, whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Pynner," *temp.* John Coventre, Mayor, and John Bederenden, Chamberlain, viz., on the 11th May, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426], he had for long time past used, and was now using, the mistery or art of "Haberdasshers," and not the art of "Pynner." He therefore prayed to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art or Mistery of "Haberdasshers." His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good folk of the latter Art, viz., Thomas Ruddok, Walter Lucy, Thomas Kyng, John Fulbourne, Thomas Hayward, Richard Salle, and others [not named].

1 Oct., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], John Athelard, "corsour," discharged by John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 109 b. Letter from the general Synod at Basle[1] to the people of Bohemia, inviting them to send delegates to the Council, to assist in restoring unity and concord in the Church, and promising them safe conduct whilst they come and go and whilst they remain.[2] [No date.]

[1] Known as the eighteenth General Council. It opened at Basle on the 23rd July, 1431, and held its first session on the 14th December following. The chief objects of the Council were the reunion of the Greek and Latin Churches, and a general reformation.

[2] The heretics (Hussites) of Prague in Bohemia attended the Council by deputation, and stoutly defended their religious opinions. They were

Letter from the same addressed to Christians in England, exhorting peace between England, France, and the Duke of Burgundy. Dated at Basle, 12 May, A.D. 1432. Fo. 110. *L'ra concilii basiliens'.*

The Third Session renewed at Basle. Fo. 110 b.

The general Synod of Basle representing the Catholic Church, formerly the Council of Constance, being desirous to provide for future necessities of the Church, decreed that, at the termination of the Council, other Councils should be held from time to time, by virtue of which decree Pope Martin V., with the assent of the Council of Constance, ordered that a Council should next be held in the city of Pavia, and it was begun there, and was thence removed to the city of Sienna,[1] when the city of Basle was chosen for the place of the next Council, under the presidency of Cardinal Julian, Deacon of St. Angelo. This was also approved of by the Pope Eugenius IV. (Martin's successor), who was anxious to extirpate heresy, and to whom the Synod sent a deputation invoking his favour and assistance. The Council, however, learning that the Pope had been moved by malicious persons to dissolve it, another deputation was despatched to beg him to alter his determination, which he did, and the Council was allowed to continue its proceedings[2] [*record imperfect*].

[Fo. 111 *blank.*]

allowed to return home, thanks to this safe conduct, "ellys they hadde gon to the fyre, as most men supposyd."—Gregory, p. 176.

[1] In 1423.

[2] Pope Martin V., by whose authority the Council had been originally summoned, had died in the meantime and been succeeded (in 1431) by Eugenius IV., who was desirous of postponing the Council for a year and a half. He was persuaded, however, to let it continue, chiefly at the intervention of the Emperor Sigismund. Monstrelet (trans.), pp. 591-2. Eugenius was afterwards formally deposed by the Council from the Papal throne, and another Pope appointed in his place. Nevertheless, he remained Pope in Rome until his death. (Fabyan, pp. 612-13.) There is an ancient MS. preserved in the Guildhall Library containing treatises on the authority of the Church, &c., and a record of the proceedings at the Council of Basle. The volume was originally deposited among the archives of the City's Bridge House Estate in the custody of the City Comptroller, but was transferred thence to the Library on the recommendation of the Library

Fo. 111 b. Letter from the Consuls and Echevins of the city of Prague, as well as the nobles, captains, &c., of the kingdom of Bohemia and the marquisate of Moravia, to Ernest, Duke of Bavaria, notifying him of their intention to send delegates to the Council of Basle, and urging him to give them his support. Dated at Prague under the seal of the Mayor of the city *feria quinta ipsa die salus populi anno xxxii.*[1]

Saturday, 11 Oct., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], a Common Council was held, there being present John Welles, the Mayor, John Symond the Recorder, Nicholas Wottone, Thomas Fauconer, John Michell, John Reinwell, William Estfeld, John Brokle, Ralph Bartone, John Perneys, Robert Otle, John Patesle, Stephen Broun, Robert Large, and William Melreth, Aldermen, John Olneye, one of the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty:—

Be it remembered that on that day a petition was made by the whole Commonalty that the Mayor and Aldermen should cause a scrutiny to be made touching the assize of bread and bakers, for that of late they had often mixed barley with wheat and sent it out of the City to be milled, where it could not be examined, and afterwards made bread of it and exposed it for sale as pure bread.

Also, there was presented another petition, praying the Mayor and Aldermen to urge the King's Council to place greater restriction upon the exportation of corn for fear of creating a scarcity.

Fos. 111 b-112. Also, there was presented another petition, that more stringent measures might be taken against Brewers who infringe the ordinances regulating their trade.

Committee made to the Court of Common Council in 1870. From this volume (fo. 154) we learn that the third session of the Synod at Basle commenced on Tuesday, 29 April, 1432. The last session was held in May, 1443.

[1] This appears to mean the fifth day of the week following the Sunday on which the Introit *Salus populi* is sung, viz., the nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, which in 1432 fell on the 19th Oct. If this conjecture be right the date is probably Thursday, 23 Oct., 1432. See Hampson, 'Medii Ævi Kalendarium,' Glossary, *s.v.* 'Salus populi.'

Monday, the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], in the presence of John Welles, the Mayor, the Prior of Christ Church, John Simond the Recorder, Henry Bartone, Nicholas Wottone, Thomas Fawkener, John Michel, John Reynwell, William Estfeld, John Perneys, John Brokle, Robert Whitingham, Simon Seman, Henry Frowik, Ralph Barton, Thomas "Wanford" [Wandesford], Robert Otteley, John Olney [scratched through], Stephen Brown, Robert Large, William Melreth, William Rus, John Pattesle, John Olney, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing—John Perneys was elected. Fo. 112 b. *Eleccio Joh'is Perneys in Maiorem London'.*

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Letters patent appointing Thomas Wandesford, John Pattesle, Thomas Bernwell, and Clement Lyffyn to be Commissioners for levying in the City the subsidy granted in the last Parliament,[1] more especially for the defence of the realm. Witness the King at Westminster, 24 Sept., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432]. *Br'e de quint'.*

12 March, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432-3], the guardianship of Thomas and William, sons of William Tropenell, late tailor, together with their patrimony, committed by John Perneys, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Katherine, mother of the said orphans, during their minority. Sureties, viz., William Combes, "felmonger," Thomas Badby, William Childe, John Bedham, fishmongers, and Richard Warbilton, "irmonger." Fo. 113. *Custodia.*

27 May, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the guardianship of Richard, son of Richard Kere, late "irmonger," together with his patrimony and money accruing to him by the death of Elizabeth his sister, committed by the same to John Blaunche, grocer (who married Elizabeth, the orphan's mother), for a *Custodia.*

[1] On the 15th July, 1432, Parliament had granted half a fifteenth and tenth for the defence of the realm. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 389.

term of six years. Sureties, viz., William Bothe, grocer, Nicholas Yoo, draper, John Brook, "bruer," and John Bracy, chandler.

Fo. 113b. *Custodia.* 2 May, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the guardianship of William, son of William Barnes, late draper, together with his patrimony, committed by the same to Roger Haysand, draper. Sureties, viz., William Bothe, grocer, John Tyndale, fishmonger, and John Knyght, draper.

Afterwards, viz., on Tuesday, the 2nd Aug., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], came the above orphan into the Chamber of the Guildhall before Robert Large, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his property.

Custodia. 15 May, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the guardianship of Robert, Richard, and Margaret, children of William Fulby, *alias* Trumpyngton, late cordwainer, committed by the same to Richard Fobell, cordwainer, for a term of seven years. Sureties, viz., Richard Bradcok, goldsmith, Hugh Lowe, cordwainer, and Richard Ferby, tailor.

Be it remembered that on the 14th May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], the above Richard Fobell and his sureties were discharged, inasmuch as they had ceased to dwell in the City, and one of them had died. New sureties are entered *infra*, fo. 210 [b].

Fo. 114. *Custodia.* 12 Oct., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the guardianship of Richard and Thomas, sons of Thomas Everdone, together with their patrimony, committed by the same to Thomas Redyng. Sureties, viz., Richard Harpele, John Frensch, William Potter, and William Camell.

s. 114b-115. *Masters of Misteries sworn anno 11 Henry VI.*

Foundours: John West, John Russell, sworn 5 Sept. [A.D. 1432].

Glasiers: John Greylond, Richard Herman, sworn 22 Sept.

Horners: Richard Catelyn, William Swetyng, sworn 7 Oct.

[*Tapicers*] Thomas Spayn, Richard Pope, John Brigg, Richard Wrestlyngton,[1] sworn 7 Oct.

[1] Or "Wrastilton." *Vide supra*, p. 98.

Armurers: Bartholomew Wynter, William Parker, sworn 7 Oct.

Flecchers: Thomas Scotte, John Parker, sworn 26 Oct.

Coriours: William Carter, William Nasyng, sworn 4 Nov.

Grocers: Ralph Saye, Nicholas Wyfold, sworn 20 Sept.

Wexchaundelers: Richard Bury, Nicholas Boyly, sworn 17 Nov.

Bruers: John Broke, William Parys, John Burveyn, William Harry, sworn 17 Dec.

Fullers: Laurence Carpenter, John Feltone, Thomas Stone, sworn 17 Dec.

Ale-conners (Scrutatores cervisie): William Rodevile, Simon Herry, Thomas Smyth, Henry Ferby, sworn 22 Dec.

Lothoners (Latoners?): John Marchall, Richard Twichener, sworn 10 Dec.

Steynours: William Gynnore, Richard Davy, sworn 16 Jan. [A.D. 1432-3].

Blaksmyths: Thomas Suthe, John Roberd, Thomas Welles, sworn [*blank*].

Glovers: Peter Godynburgh, John Wright, William Loder, sworn 5 Feb. [A.D. 1432-3].

Shipwrightes: William Cook, William Tawk, sworn 5 Feb. [A.D. 1432-3].

Pouchemakers: John Taillour, Thomas Eliat, Richard Bystone, John Crook, sworn 18 Oct. [A.D. 1432].

Girdelers: Richard Coltone, Thomas Mas, William Grymesby, Thomas Herne, sworn 19 Aug. [A.D. 1433].

Fullers: Nicholas Walter, John Feltone, junior, Thomas Stone, sworn the penultimate day of February [A.D. 1432–3].

Lymnours and *Stacyoners:* Robert Chirch, William Barough, sworn 10 Aug. [A.D. 1433].

Diers: Thomas Couper, John Hiccheman, sworn 11 Aug. [A.D. 1433].

Coupers: John Trendeler, John Dunstaple, sworn "Custer" [*sic*].[1] No date.

[1] Perhaps for *Custodes*, *i.e.*, Wardens.

Lynwevers: John Rykhill, Robert Hawkyn, sworn 27 July [A.D. 1433].

Lorimers: William Aleyn, William atte Noven', John Bounde, sworn 5 Aug. [A.D. 1433].

Bochers: William Rede, Robert Tewe, sworn 27 May [A.D. 1433].

Peyntours: Robert Squyry, John Keyle, sworn 4 July [A.D. 1433].

Haberdasshers: Richard Blake, John Palmere, William Clerk, John Polhill, sworn 18 Aug. [A.D. 1433].

Fo. 115 b. *Custodia liberor' Joh'is OO.*

31 March, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the guardianship of Elizabeth, John, and Thomas, children of John OO, late apothecary, and of Katherine his wife, together with their patrimony and goods, committed by John Perneys, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Curteys, apothecary, for a term of five years. Sureties, viz., William Warde, Thomas Peretre, John Gladwyn, drapers, and John Beke, grocer.

[Fos. 116–118 b *blank.*]

Fo. 119. *De telariis.*

Writ *pluries* to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs that they allow all foreign clothworkers to exercise their craft in the City, if they so wish, without compelling them to become members of the Weavers' Guild or to pay any money in respect thereof, pursuant to statutes made in the 11th and 26th years of King Edward III.[1] and confirmed by subsequent Kings, as well as by King Henry VI. himself, on the 20th May in the 7th year of his reign. Witness the King at Westminster, 1 Nov., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432].

Fos. 119-119b.

Return made to the above writ by John Perneys, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Pattesle and John Olney, the Sheriffs, to the following effect, viz., that there had always existed in the City and suburbs three separate and distinct misteries of native clothworkers, viz., native Weavers of woollen cloth for Tapestry, native Weavers of woollen cloth for

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book F,' p. 111; 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 130.

Drapery, and native Weavers of woollen cloth for Napery,[1] and that of these three only the Weavers for Drapery have always had a Guild of their own. Further, that since the receipt of a certain former writ[2] on the matter they had allowed all cloth-workers from foreign parts to exercise their craft in the City and suburbs without compelling them to join a Guild or make any payment thereto. [No date.]

Report made by the Mayor and citizens of London to the Commissioners appointed to hear and determine the claim made by the Dean and Chapter of the Church of St. Martin le Grand to be exempt from the jurisdiction and liberty of the City. Fo. 120.

The claimants base their claim, firstly, upon certain words contained in a charter granted to the said church by William the Conqueror, in the second year of his reign.[3] Secondly, they rely on a charter dated 4 Feb., 15 Henry III. [A.D. 1230-1], granting to the said church and to Walter de Kirkham, the Dean,[4]

[1] "There were then [*i.e.*, *temp.* Edward III.] in this citie weavers of diverse sorts, to wit, of Drapery or Taperie, and Naperie." Stow's 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 218. It will be noted that Stow does not differentiate "Tapery" or Tapestry from Drapery as in the Letter-Book.

[2] Probably the writ recorded *supra*, p. 96.

[3] The clause relied on commences:—*Sit vero ipsa prenominata beati Martini ecclesia.....universali exaccione et inquietudine quieta et omnino sequestrata*, and ends *Si quis vero hoc in aliud quam concessimus transferre presumpserit cum Juda proditore dei herebicas* [sic] *hat penat'* [sic]. The charter is printed in the 'Historical Notices of the Collegiate Church of St. Martin le Grand' (1825), by Alfred J. Kempe, pp. 174-6. Cf. Dugdale, 'Monas.,' vol. vi. part iii. pp. 1324-5. A copy of this charter, together with copies of other charters and documents "which heretofore have byn most secretly kept from knowledge of this Citie" touching the liberties of St. Martin le Grand, is also set out in a MS. volume compiled by Thomas Weston, clerk to William Fleetwood, the City's Recorder, who presented it to the Corporation on the 31st July, 1576. It was probably transcribed from a cartulary in the possession of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, access to which was denied, in later years, to Alfred Kempe, but which had been consulted by Stow. (See 'Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 307, 308.) 'Liber Fleetwood' is preserved in the Guildhall Library.

[4] Afterwards Dean of York and Bishop of Durham. Died A.D. 1260.

and his successors exemption from divers tolls and other payments and services.[1]

As to the words in the charter of William, the Mayor and citizens say that they are too general to derogate from the City's special liberties, rights, and jurisdictions, and such a claim as that of immunity from jurisdiction must be supported by special warrant, royal grant, or ancient licence approved by law. Moreover, if the words had any force, they would in law extend only to the canons and possessions of the church, and not to the protection of criminals fleeing from justice and the jurisdiction of the King and of his City, for this would be contrary to reason and manifestly redound to the increase of crime.

As to the charter of Henry III., it cannot prejudice the City's jurisdiction, inasmuch as it was granted long after the citizens had acquired the fee ferm of the City with all its appurtenances, including the right of distress, attachment, and execution of the King's commands, as well within the said close as elsewhere in the City.

Fo. 120 b. Further, they say that the charters aforesaid and every other charter granted to the Dean and Chapter of the close or church of St. Martin le Grand were granted in these terms, viz., "to God and the church of St. Martin le Grand, London"; or "St. Martin le Grand of London"; or "St. Martin le Grand, London, within London," or "in London," which words plainly show that the close is of, and in, the liberty of the City of London.

Here follow the answer and articles touching the attachment of a Canon of Waltham lately made within the close of St. Martin le Grand,[2] *London, as alleged, whereby the Dean complains he is aggrieved, proving that the place wherein the attachment was made is of, and in, the liberty and jurisdiction of the City.*

The Mayor and citizens say that the attachment was made by virtue of a certain special commission addressed to the

[1] Set out in 'Liber Custumarum' (Rolls Series), ii. 669-71. Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book C,' p. 62.

[2] *Two* canons appear to have been arrested in 1430. Cf. *supra*, pp. 106, 107.

Mayor of the time, and in the house of a certain John Belle situate, with many other houses, without the aforesaid close in the King's highway, in the parish of St. Michael le Quern, in the Ward of Farndon, as will be most clearly proved if and whenever the lords of the Council wish to hear the matter. If, however, the Dean should wish to claim the house as being within the close, the Mayor and citizens are prepared to prove by the evidences which follow that the arrest was good and lawful by the laws and customs both of the realm and City, inasmuch as the said close from time immemorial has been of, and in, the liberty and jurisdiction of the City.

First, they say that the City has been from time immemorial the chief city of the whole realm of England, as well in honours as in liberties and free customs, for it was founded after the manner, and in memory, of ancient Troy, and hence for long time was called Troynovant; that in the time of Edward the Confessor and before, the City was of itself an entire Sheriffwick (*vicecomitatus*[1]) and an entire jurisdiction and liberty held to ferm by the citizens from the King; that by virtue of such jurisdiction and liberty the citizens have always enjoyed the right of electing certain principal officers in the City to answer to the King for the said ferm, and under him to govern the inhabitants of the City in peace and justice, according to their ancient laws and customs, so that no summons, attachment, distress, or execution could take place in the said close or elsewhere in the City, except by such officers and their servants. They, further, say that William the Conqueror—before his charter of foundation of the said church—with the authority of his Parliament (*auctoritate parliamenti sui*), had granted two charters, by one of which he granted to the citizens of London the whole of the said City and Sheriffwick (*vicecomitatum*) of London with all their appurtenances, whereby they make attachments, &c., as well within the said close as elsewhere in

[1] In this connexion *vicecomitatus* appears to have the same signification as *comitatus*. Cf. *infra*, fo. 144 b. *Civitas London'.....fuit antiquior liberior et principalior civitas regni Anglie et unus comitatus de se per se et in se.*

the City; by the other charter he confirmed to the citizens and their successors all the liberties and customs they had enjoyed
Fo. 121. under Edward the Confessor.[1] These liberties the citizens had thus enjoyed from before the foundation of the said church down to the present day, and thus, they say, the said close had been from time immemorial of, and in, the jurisdiction and justice (*justicia*) of the City of London, and parcel of the same, and the Dean and Canons of the said close and church had never had any jurisdiction within the said close apart from the justice of the City. All which the Mayor and citizens are prepared to prove, and more especially from the time of Edward I., when the greater part of the land, &c., which now forms the close, came into the possession of the Dean and Chapter.

Thus they say, firstly, that in the time of Edward I. the greater part of the close was a certain common highway of the
X City, in the parish of St. Leonard in the Ward of Aldrichesgate, leading from St. Vedast Lane to the church of St. Martin le Grand[2] on one part, and to the church of St. Nicholas Shambles on the other; and because the said lane became the resort of bad characters at night, the King, after inquisition held, allowed the Dean of the said church to enclose it, and thus he claims to have private jurisdiction therein, although the jurisdiction of the King and of the City was not thereby destroyed.

Also they say, that anno 4 Edward I. a command was given to the Mayor and citizens by Roger de Seytone and his fellow-justices itinerant that they should diligently inquire what churches, colleges, &c., within the liberties of the City were of the advowson, presentation, or donation of the King, and make a return of the same to the aforesaid justices; and among the churches, &c., so returned was that of St. Martin le Grand, as is testified by the record of the *Iter* in the King's

[1] The first of the two charters here mentioned, if it ever existed, is lost. The second is still preserved.

[2] Thus Stow: "On the west side of Fauster lane [*i.e.*, St. Vedast Lane] is the smal parrish Church of S. Leonardes, for them of S. Martins le graund." 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 306.

Treasury, a copy of which was delivered to the citizens according to ancient custom, and is now produced.[1] From this it is clear that the close and church are of, and in, the liberty and jurisdiction of the City.

Also they say, that anno 14 Edward II. the Mayor and citizens came before Hervey de Staunton and his fellow-justices itinerant at the Tower, together with twelve good men from each Ward, among them being twelve men from the Ward of Aldrichesgate, who, in answer to articles of the *Iter* touching the churches in the said Ward which were of the King's donation, said that the church of St. Martin, London, was in the King's donation, and that Richard Ellefeld was Dean, but by what title they did not know.[2] Precept was therefore sent to the Sheriffs to summon the said Dean, who appeared, but claimed no exemption except from the jurisdiction of the Ordinary, as appears on the record. He also said that he held the said church as a free chapel of the lord the King by grant of the King, exempt from the jurisdiction of the Ordinary by the King's letters dated at Newerk, 6 Oct., 11 Edward II. [A.D. 1317].

Also, presentment was made in the same *Iter* that the Fo. 121 b.
Dean and Canons of St. Martin le Grand had a solar opposite the said church which was a public nuisance; that the Canons occupied the said solar, which they claimed as parcel of the close and exempt. Thereupon the Dean was summoned, and, on appearance, he promised that the nuisance should be abated.

Presentment was also made of three posts placed by the aforesaid Dean on the King's highway which were a public nuisance. Abatement promised.

Also the said Dean and Chapter, before the same Justices, claimed to have certain liberties prescribed in their two charters, but did not claim jurisdiction and immunity either by virtue of the said charters or for other cause. Thereupon

[1] No such record appears to exist at the Guildhall at the present day.

[2] No mention of this, or of what follows, appears in the proceedings of the *Iter* of 1321 as recorded in 'Liber Custum.,' i. 285-425.

Geoffrey Scrope, the King's Serjeant-at-law, said that the said Dean and Chapter ought not to have "infangtheof," inasmuch as those indicted for felony or taken within the close or soke of the said Dean and Chapter were delivered or condemned before the Justices at Newgate.

Also, on Saturday before the Feast of St. Gregory [12 March], 17 Edward II. [A.D. 1323–4], a certain Robert Stode, son of William Cramphorne, of "Sabriggesworth,"[1] fled to the church of St. Martin le Grand, and then and there acknowledged before Stephen de Abyndone, the King's Butler and Coroner, and John de Oxon' and Adam de Sarum, the Sheriffs, that he was a felon, having killed Agnes, daughter of Thomas Badle, at Sobbery[2] with a "fagot staff," and refused to give himself up. He afterwards made his escape, as may be seen in the Coroner's Roll preserved in the City's Treasury.[3]

Also, on Thursday the Feast of Corpus Christi [22 June], 3 Edward III. [A.D. 1329], William Lullay of Cambridge, "bocher," fled to the same church, and then and there acknowledged before Simon Fraunceys and Henry de Combmartyn, the Sheriffs, and John Shirborne, the City Coroner, that he had killed Richard Burgeis, "bocher," in the high street, opposite the church of St. Martin le Grand. He refused to surrender, and afterwards made his escape, &c.

Also, on Wednesday before the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul [25 Jan.], 4 Edward III. [A.D. 1330-1], information was given to Robert de Ely and Thomas de Harewode, the Sheriffs, and John Shirborne, the King's Coroner in the City, that a certain Thomas le Longe of Derby lay dead of a death other than his rightful death within the close of the Dean of St. Martin le Grand, in the Ward of Aldrichesgate. Thereupon the Coroner and Sheriffs went there, and having summoned good men of that Ward and of the three nearest Wards, viz., Farndon Within, Castle Baynard, and "Crepoulgate," they diligently inquired how it happened, viz., by oath,

[1] Sawbridgeworth, co. Herts.
[2] Sodbury, co. Glouc.
[3] Coroner's Roll C (12), preserved at the Guildhall.

&c. The jurors say that on the preceding Tuesday, after the hour of curfew, the aforesaid Thomas le Longe and a certain Thomas de Harburgh, servants of Sir Richard de Bury, Clerk of the lord the King, were quarrelling in the said close, and that the said Thomas de Harburgh struck the said Thomas le Longe with a knife on the breast, inflicting a wound an inch long and 7 inches deep, so that he immediately died. The said Thomas de Harburgh was forthwith arrested, and taken to the house of Robert de Ely, the Sheriff. No one else was present, and nobody was suspected of the death except the said Thomas de Harburgh. The corpse was viewed, on which appeared the wound. Precept to the Sheriff to attach the four nearest neighbours.

Also, on Monday the Feast of St. Barnabas [11 June], 6 Edward III. [A.D. 1332], information having been given to John Mokkyng and Andrew Aubrey, the Sheriffs, and John Shirborne, the Coroner of the lord the King in the City, that a certain Robert de Dodmerton, "mason," lay dead of a death other than his rightful death in the high street near the gate of the church of St. Martin le Grand, in the Ward of Farndon Within, the said Sheriffs and Coroner went there, and after summoning good men of that Ward and of the three nearest Wards, viz., Aldrichesgate, Castle Baynard, and Crepulgate, they diligently inquired on oath how it happened. The jurors say that on the aforesaid Monday, after dinner, a certain John Frowe, son of John Frowe of Lincoln, "sadeler," pursued the said Robert de Dodmerton secretly up a certain narrow lane near the church of St. Martin le Grand, and struck him on the neck with a long knife, on account of a quarrel that had arisen between them, inflicting a mortal wound, of which he died, and the said John Frowe forthwith fled into the said church, where he confessed his guilt before the said Coroner and Sheriffs. No one else was present, and no one was suspected except the said John Frowe. The corpse viewed, &c. The record of the above preserved in the City's Treasury,[1] and proffered by the Mayor and citizens. Fo. 122.

[1] Not preserved at the Guildhall.

Also, they say that the Mayor and Sheriffs are not bound, by the custom of the City, to make a return in writing of the record of any plaint made before them in the Husting to the lord the King or his Justices beyond the liberty of the City, but they record the same by word of mouth (*oretenus*) before such Justices sitting at the church of St. Martin le Grand, as being a place of, and in, the liberty of the City; and King Richard II., by writ dated 8 Nov., in the first year of his reign [A.D. 1377], ordered Nicholas Brembre, the Mayor, and Nicholas Twyford and Andrew Pykman, the Sheriffs, to return before Robert Belcnap and other of his Justices sitting at the said church, on Wednesday after the Feast of St. Andrew [30 Nov.] next ensuing, the record of a plaint that had formerly been in the Husting between Richard de Westone, goldsmith, and Roisia his wife, and Thomas de Farndon, touching certain shops and a garden in the suburb; that after a respite of 40 days the said Mayor and Sheriffs made return by word of mouth at the aforesaid church, as being a place within the liberty of the City.[1]

They acted in the same way, anno 9 Richard II., touching proceedings between Simon Wynchecombe and John Brenchold;[2] also anno 12 Richard II. touching proceedings between John Reynes[3] and John Botelesham, and on 500 other occasions, both before and since, as they are ready to prove if and when, &c.

They also say that, anno 1 Henry V., Thomas Sharesfeld and William White of Ireland were indicted for divers felonies committed within the said close, and were condemned to death at Newgate; and that, anno 4 Henry V., William Cratfeld, late parson of Wortham [co. Norf.], and Thomas Typertone, for divers felonies committed within the same, were indicted before Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and his fellow-justices of the King, and were outlawed, as appears from records[4] which the Mayor and citizens proffer.

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 85-6.

[2] Or "Brenchele." *Id.*, p. 294.

[3] Or "Reymes." *Id.*, pp. 343-4.

[4] 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' pp. 165, 166.

They likewise say that, in the same first year, the Sheriffs of the City, by the King's order, destroyed a passage of the said close wherein felonies used to be committed. Fo. 122 b.

They further say that, anno 9 Henry VI., a certain Henry Ciprian, a Canon of Waltham, was arrested by William Estfeld, the Mayor, in the house of John Belle, which the said Dean claims to be parcel of the said close, and was delivered up to his Abbot, inasmuch as the King issued a writ to that effect to the said Mayor.[1]

Also, whereas among the liberties and free customs granted and confirmed to the citizens there is one to the effect that the King shall not assign Justices to sit in any part of the liberty of the City except Justices Itinerant and Justices for the gaol of Newgate, and for the correction of errors at St. Martin le Grand as of old accustomed;[2] if at any time Justices have been appointed to sit at the said church or precinct for other causes than those recited in the charters, the citizens have always had royal letters of indemnity to the effect that such session should not become a precedent,[3] as the Mayor and citizens are prepared to prove if, &c.

Thus it is clear that the said church and precinct are of, and in, the liberty of the City, otherwise if the said church were without the liberty and jurisdiction of the City all the aforesaid grants and indemnity would have been unnecessary.

Also, whereas by ancient custom the citizens were not bound to leave the City to serve on juries, &c., whenever, therefore, a jury became necessary in a cause tried outside the City touching a matter within the City, the Justices came to the said church and caused the citizens to try the case there, as being within the liberty of the City.

[1] The writ which follows is dated 5 [September], 9 Hen. VI. [A.D. 1430], and is the same as that recorded *supra*, p. 106, where also the execution of the writ is recorded. Cf. Kempe, *op. cit.*, pp. 113-14.

[2] See Charter, 8 June, 12 Edw. II. 'Liber Cust.,' i. 267.

[3] It may be noted that when the King, in 1366, appointed Justices for gaol-delivery of Newgate to sit at the Guildhall he issued letters patent to the effect that such a procedure was not to become a precedent. 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 213.

They say also that it has always been the custom, whenever the King's Justices sit at St. Martin le Grand, for the City's officers, and no others, to be in attendance as being a place of, and in, their liberty and jurisdiction.

Lastly, they say that all tenants and inhabitants of the precinct of the said church having shops or houses and following a trade or craft have always borne a share of the City's burdens like other inhabitants of the City, as the Mayor and citizens are prepared to prove.[1]

Fo. 123. In consideration of all the foregoing the Mayor and citizens pray the Commissioners to make an early report to the King of their judgment in the matter.

Precept to the Aldermen to elect men in their several Wards to assess a sum equal to one fourth of a fifteenth and to levy the same and bring the money to the Guildhall by the 10th Nov. next. Dated 30 Oct., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432].

12 June, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], Henry Swetman, "peautrer," discharged by John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to deafness and increasing old age.

26 Oct., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], Thomas Pycard, "stok-fisshmonger," similarly discharged owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 123 b. Precept to the Aldermen to hold their several Wardmotes and refer such matters as they cannot themselves remedy to the Mayor's General Court to be held at the Guildhall on Monday next after the Feast of Epiphany [6 Jan.]; and further to take steps for the preservation of the peace and cleansing the streets, and also cause to be elected a prescribed number of persons to be members of the Common Council, &c. Dated 10 Dec., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432].

[Fos. 124-124 b *blank*.]

[1] The greater part of the evidences here adduced by the Mayor and citizens in support of their claim to exercise jurisdiction within the precinct of St. Martin le Grand appears to have been again adduced in the Star Chamber in 1440, when the Dean and Chapter renewed their claim of exemption from the City's jurisdiction. Kempe, pp. 116-131; cf. Fleetwood, fos. 153-160.

Be it remembered that on the 7th Feb., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432-3], before John Perneys, the Mayor, William Crowemere, Nicholas Wottone, John Reinwell, John Gedney, William Estfeld, John Welles, Ralph Barton, Henry Frowyk, Thomas Wandesford, Simon Seman, Robert Ottele, John Brokle, Robert Large, William Melreth, Stephen Broun, William Rus, Aldermen, John Patesle and John Olney, the Sheriffs, and a notable Commonalty of the City in Common Council assembled, the said Commonalty presented a bill or petition to the aforesaid Mayor and Aldermen in these words:— Fo. 125.

"To the Worshipfull and discrete Mair and Aldermen of the Citee of London Shewen alle þ^e Co'es of the said Cite that where our soverayn lord þ^e Kyng and his noble progenitours be here chartres have graunted to þ^e citezeins of London many and notable Fraunchises for þ^e welfare and amendement of this his Citee and þer [þer?] as be a special point in oure Fraunchise It is wreten that þoo that shuld be admitted to the Fraunchise of this Cite shuld be contributorie to lott scott taxes talliages wacches and to alle other charges of þ^e Citee And tho þ^t so were nat to anulle her Fraunchise And as ye know wel so grete charges of lones yiftes and talliages fill nat in this Cite many yeres as han doon this xvj or xvij yeer and as ye knowe welle lasse geting was nat many yeres nor gretter scarcete among þ^e Co'es as is nowe God amende it and grete cause is for þ^e Resceiving in to Craftes of þ^s Cite of diverse and grete nombre of Foreines aswell strangiers as denizeins which come Inne bi Maires of þ^s Citee and bi Wardeines of Craftes some for lucre to þ^e Chambre and to Craftes and some for lucre sengell to þ^e Mair and for *je vous pries* And yit this people so Resceived bi Redempc'on admitted to o craft and use other In grete disceit and harme of thoo craftes So þ^at nowe þ^o peple come Inne by Redempc'on duelling in diverse placis of þ^is Reeme and some in þ^s Cite have þ^e grete cours of selling of merchandises to straungiers many of hem ofte to losse in grete abatement of þ^e prises of alle chaffare and merchandise and also to grete hindring to the King in his custumes ther [*sic*] as if thei were foreins many avauntages shuld falle to þ^e King

and the Cite Wherethurgh þe said Co'es be foule and sore hindred in here goodes and be nowe of so litell power that þe mowe nat lene monoie to þe King as here will is and þei hadde good Wherfor as it is saide In Englissh proverbes better to amende late þan never[1] like to you worschipful Mair and
Fo. 125 b. Aldermen þt be chosen our hedes and governours bi your wise discrecions to considre that alle enfraunchised men continuelly duelling out of þis Citee þt are sworn to be perceners and intending to alle manere wacches wardes taxes tallages loones and alle oþer charges mowe not nor ought not be demed perceners to alle charges of þis Citee as þeire othe is for thei come neiþer to wacche ne warde as oþer do whan tyme axith, no þei come nat ne mowe nat be somoned for þeire absence in noon enquestes jures neither assises neither þei bere no manere of office as Induellers doo whiche are greate charges of þis Citee and how þe substance of houses in the Citee for lak of duellers stonde desolate and voide and be more likely fro day to day yif men may duelle where þaim list and reioise þe Fraunchise and to ordeine as it haþ ofte be desired that alle such as be comen ynne be disceit to þe Fraunchise under colour of oo craft and use a nother be utterly discharged And eke þat alle suche oute-duellers þat are co'en biers and sellers of merchandises and be not fre bi birthe or apprenticialte be discharged of þair Fraunchises o lesse than be twene þis and Estern next comyng þei come to þis Cite and fro thennesforward continuelly dwelle þerinne and supporte þe charges þer of and elles after þat day þei be and þe Shirefs and alle oþer men trete and demene hem as foreins and estraungiers for þe saide Fraunchise and þat fro þis day forward no man be admitted in to þe said Fraunchise but he be born or made apprentice or officer with ynne þe Citee o lesse þan be co'e counselle or but he finde sufficeant seurte to þe Chamberleyn for þe co'ialte of c li to be continuelly receaunt with ynne þis Citee and þat he come nat ynne bi disceit nor under colour of o craft to use eny other And if þe Chamberleyn þat shall be for þe while admitte eny man in þe contrarie

[1] "Never too late to mend." For divers variations of this proverb see *Notes and Queries*, 10 S. xii. 25 Dec., 1909.

that he paie to þe co'ialtie c marc' and be descharged of his owne Fraunchise and putte oute of that office for ever."

To which bill answer was made on behalf of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs by John Symond, the Recorder, that they would take time to consider it, and announce their decision at the next Common Council. And afterwards, viz.:—

[*Blank.*]

Fo. 126.

De illis qui deberent esse in lotto et qui non.

"First that alle manere of Fremen sworn to be in lotte and scotte and perceners to alle the charges of þ^e citee which continuelly duellen with her wives childres servauntz and holde her houshaldes oute of þ^e Citee and for their absentes mowe not nor owe not be demed perceners to the saide charges after their othe For þei come noþer to sommons wacches ne wardes ne bere none officez as Induellers do Which are þ^e grete charges of the Cite IT IS ORDEYNED be þ^e Mair Aldermen and Co'es &c that alle such outeduellers drawe þeim to þ^s Citee be twene this and þ^e Fest of Mighelmasse next comyng fro thens forward to duelle with her wives children servauntes and hold their houshold þerynne and supporte the charges ther of after þeir estate and degree as oþer men doon for her part And elles after þ^e said Fest þat þei lese and forfait alle þ^e benefice and avauntage of þair saide Fraunchise and liberte and paie alle manere custumes and charges to þ^e Kyng and þ^e Citee as oþer foreins and estraungiers doon OUTAKE alleway and except alle manere of lordes knyghtes Squyers men of lawe and oþer that been no co'en marchauntz or such as for þ^e good and worschip þat þei have or mowe doo to þ^e said Citee bi the grace and dispensac'on of this Court &c be or shul be desported with of þair othe as touching comyng to sumonces or bering of offices and suche oþer charges with ynne þ^e Citee and outake eke þat it be leoful to eny man fre bi birth or apprenticialte þat hath or shal have in tyme comyng eny liflode oute of þ^e said Cite oþer while if him list or nede askith to desporte and abide on his saide liflode so allewey þat he duelle nat a yeer oute of þ^e Fraunchise and in the mene while leve or assigne some body in his absence to paie for him scotte and such oþer charges as

shall falle and eke be redy to bere lotte if he be written or called þerto in þ^e^ mene tyme.

" EKE for as mochell as ofte sithes many grete marchauntz and oþer notable parsonnes of diverses occupac'ons with ynne þ^s^ lond bi whom þ^e^ Kyng and þ^e^ Cite shulde reporte gret avauntage in paieng of due custumes and oþer thinges if þei stode foreins aquente hem with þ^e^ Wardeins of such craftes as þei never used a fore ne wille after and be disceit under colour of þaim and be þaim for a thing of nought be presented to þ^e^ Chamberlain and there admitted to þ^e^ fraunchise after which admission þei never used þ^e^ said craft where of þei were made fre but alle suche oþer mennes occupac'ons as theim lust in defrauding the Kyng and þ^e^ Citee of þeir verey custumes and duites and grevoux and co'en hurt to alle oþer men of such occupac'ons and a likly districc'on of all þ^e^ craftes and occupac'ons w^t^ynne þ^s^ Citee as god forbede if such foreins and straungiers shulde þus by disceit under colour of a craft þat þei never used a fore nor after be admitted to þ^e^ Fraunchise of þ^e^ Cite in hurt of alle suche other occupac'ons ther of WHERFORE It is accorded and ordeined be þ^e^ said Mair Aldermen and Co'es as a þing of good raison and equite that alle thoo þ^t^ are continuell duellers in þ^e^ cuntre and oute of þ^s^ Citee which be such disceit are commen to þ^e^ said Fraunchise be Redempc'on if it be duely proved that thei be utterly discharged of þis saide Fraunchise and moreover that fro this daye forward no man save officers and such oþer as be no co'en merchauntz shall be presented nor admitted to þ^e^ saide Fraunchise o lesse þanne it be bi þ^e^ Wardeins and men of such occupac'ons as he haþ used afore or will use after And if þer be doo þ^e^ contrarie so it may be preved in due manere that þanne alle suche so presented and admitted shull lese and forfete alle þ^e^ benefice and avauntage of þair saide Fraunchise and liberte þus hadde be disceit in defrauding the King and þ^e^ Cite and co'en hurtyng of oþer occupac'ons as is said afore SAVYNG alleway & reserved to alle þaim þ^t^ be atte þis daye Fremen of þis Citee be Redempc'on & are duelling w^t^ynne þ^e^ liberte and parceners to þ^e^ charges þerof reioise þair

Fraunchise in alle þinges as hool as oþer men doo þat be free by birthe or apprenticialte And savynk eke þat it be leofull to every man þ^t be Redempc'on here after truly with oute disceit shall be made free in eny Felship of such craft as he hath verrily used to use furth þ^e saide craft after and suche oþer occupac'ons as god & fortune for þ^e tyme wille avaunce & able him too So allwey that he be continuelly duelling with ynne þe Fraunchise & supporte þ^e charges ther of to his kunnyng and power as other doo.

"ALSO it is ordeined þat noon alien fro þis daye forward be admitted into þ^e Fraunchise of the Cite of London but in plein hustenge according to þ^e chartre[1] and þat bi assent of the co'e counseill and þat on condic'on he duelle continuelly in the Citee supporting lotte and scotte and other charges after his power and use noon oþer craft þan such as he is made free of on peine to lese and forfete the saide Fraunchise To the which þinges he shall find sufficeant seurete or he be admitted. Fo. 126 b.

"FURTHERMORE it is ordeined and establisshed be þ^e said Mair Aldermen and Co'es that fro þis day forward the Chamberlein of this Citee for the tyme being Resceive nor admitte noon oþer man to þ^e Fraunchise of the saide Cite bi redempc'on o lesse þanne the maistres and such of every Felship as presente him swere or make fulfeith that it be not doo in disceit or hurt of eny oþer craft or felship and eke that sufficeant seurte be made apart to þ^e Chamberlein be reconissance of a resonable or a convenient some to be paied to þ^e use of þ^e Co'ialte in cas the contrarie be duely founde and proved after Or that he so presented and admitted claime and reioisse the benefice of the saide Fraunchise but he duelle continuelly in þ^e Citee and be in lotte and scotte and parcener to alle oþer charges after his power and as his oth askith And if þ^e Chamberlein for the tyme being resceive or admitte eny man in contrarie o lesse than it be with consent of the Co'e

[1] Articles granted to the City by Edward II. in 1319, among them being the following: *Et quod nullus alienigena in libertatem civitatis predicte admittatur nisi in Hustengo.* 'Liber Cust.,' i. 269; 'Liber Albus,' i. 142.

counseill that he paie to the Co'ialtie a c marc' and be descharged of his owne Fraunchise and put oute of that office for ever."

Custodia bonor' pertin' Cristine filie Rad'i Blakelowe.

3 Feb., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432-3], the custody of certain chattels bequeathed by Cristina Mallyng,[1] late wife of Thomas Cake, *alias* Mallyng, to Cristina her god-daughter (*filiola*), daughter of Ralph Blakelowe, committed to the said Ralph by John Perneys, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, inasmuch as Matthew Fowcher, who had been appointed trustee by the mother, had renounced the trust. Sureties, viz., the aforesaid Ralph, John Alman, tailor, and William Norton, saddler.

Afterwards, viz., on the 29th Jan., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436–7], came Henry Sewale, who married the above Christina, and acknowledged satisfaction for his wife's property.

Recogn' £c pueris Ric'i Gosselyn pertin'.

31 July, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], came John Bedham, Thomas Badby, William Childe, William Beaufitz, fishmongers, and Thomas Belgrave, "cotiller," into the Court of the lord the King, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged themselves bound to John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £100 to the use of John, Thomas, Richard, Nicholas, Johanna, Katherine, and Robert, children of Richard Gosselyn, late "irmonger."[2]

Fo. 127.

Writ to the Coroner that he summon the following to appear before the King a fortnight after Easter next—viz., John Perneys, Fishmonger, the Mayor, Thomas Knolles, Grocer and Alderman, William Crowmere, Draper and Alderman, Thomas Fauconer, Mercer and Alderman, Henry Barton, Skinner and Alderman, John Gedney, Draper and Alderman, John Reynwell, "Iremonger" and Alderman, Nicholas Wottone, Draper

[1] Her will dated 4 May, 1430, proved and enrolled in the Husting in Nov., 1431. 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 455.

[2] Cf. *supra*, p. 129.

and Alderman, John Michell, Fishmonger[1] and Alderman, William Estfeld, Mercer and Alderman, John Welles, Grocer and Alderman, John Brokle, Draper and Alderman, Stephen Broun, Grocer and Alderman, Nicholas James, Fishmonger and Alderman, John [*sic*][2] Whityngham, Draper and Alderman, Thomas Wandesford, Mercer and Alderman, Henry Frow[ik], [Mercer] and Alderman, William Melreth, Mercer and Alderman, Robert Large, Mercer and Alderman, Ralph Bartone, Skinner and Alderman, Robert Oteleye, Grocer and Alderman, William Clerk, Prior of Christchurch and Alderman, Simon Seman, "Vynter" and Alderman, William Rus, Goldsmith and Alderman, John Pattesle, Goldsmith and Alderman, and one of the Sheriffs, and John Olney, Mercer, the other Sheriff—to show cause why, notwithstanding the statutes of 11 and 26 Edward III., confirmed by that King's successors, granting to foreign weavers the right to exercise their craft without becoming members of a Guild, and notwithstanding former writs and the return made thereto,[3] they persist in refusing to allow Henry Nedilship, John Grove, John Way, and Henry Appere, foreign clothworkers, to live in the City and there to exercise their mistery. Witness the King at Westminster, 1 March, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432–3].

Letter of Privy Seal to the Mayor, &c., for the restoration of merchandise belonging to Italian merchants which had been seized for non-payment of "scuage"[4] [*ends abruptly*]. Fo. 127 b.

14 April, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], the seal of Henry Jolypas, chaplain, late Chamberlain of St. Paul's Church, which had been stolen from him by William Bisshop, his kinsman, three days before his death, which took place on the 18th Aug.,

[1] In Letter-Book I, fo. cv b, he is described as a *grocer* (he being at that time a Commoner), but the record is probably incorrect. See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' Introd., p. xv n. Cf. *Notes and Queries*, 10 S. xii., 6 Nov., 1909.

[2] A clerical error for Robert.

[3] Cf. writ and return recorded *supra*, pp. 150-1.

[4] More usually spelt "scawage" or "scavage"—a toll or duty paid by foreign merchants on "shewing" their goods to official examiners. Further proceedings in this matter appear to be recorded *infra*, fos. 134-5, 193.

9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1431], was restored by the thief to Master William Shapelford and Philip Lovecok, chaplains, executors of the said Chamberlain, in the presence of John Brokle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, the said thief declaring on oath that to his knowledge the seal had never been applied to any document whilst in his possession. Thereupon the executors, not knowing whether his statement was true or not, asked that his confession might be placed on record, and this was done. The seal was in circumference as depicted,[1] and was made of two separate pieces of silver, united by alternate twistings (*ad invicem quodam ingentivo torculari mediante combinatis*), and bearing an image of the Crucifixion, with Mary and John standing on either side, and circumscribed with a legend for the most part obliterated.

Fo. 128. Writ to the Sheriffs for the election of four persons to represent the City in a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the 8th July next. No Sheriff to be returned. Witness the King at Westminster, 24 May, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433].[2]

Translacio. 22 Aug., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], came William, son of Simon Cumbys of Fyncheham, co. Norf., and apprentice to Stephen Bartelot, glover, before John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Glovers *temp.* Drew Barantyn, Mayor, and John Proffyt, the Chamberlain, viz., on the 28th Feb., 10 Henry IV. [A.D. 1408-9], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of Fishmongers, and not the art of Glovers. He prayed therefore that he might be admitted into the liberty of the City in the Art or Mistery of Fishmongers. His prayer granted at the urgent request of the

[1] A pen-and-ink sketch of the seal is given, representing a crucifix with figures on either side, surrounded by a tressure of four curves and four angles extending outwards, and an outer circle or rim.

[2] The return to the writ is not recorded in the Letter-Book. The City members were John Reynwell and John Welles, Aldermen; John Hatherle and Thomas Catworth, Commoners. (See Beaven's 'Aldermen of London,' p. 271.) The Parliament was remarkable for the public reconciliation of the two brothers Bedford and Gloucester. 'Rot. Parl., iv. 421.

Masters and good men of the said Mistery, viz., Thomas Badby, William Childe, Thomas Lincoln, Thomas Dursley, William Mitron, and William Beaufitz.

25 Sept., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], John Folbery, haberdasher, discharged by John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 128 b. At the Court of the lord the King held in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, on the 10th Sept., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], John Boseworth, late of Boseworth, co. Leices., butcher, a freeman of the City, attached to answer a charge of having "coloured" merchandise belonging to John Bray of Northampton, mercer, and sold it as the property of a freeman[1] to Amphrion Spinula, a merchant of Janua, a foreigner and stranger to the freedom of the City. Alexander Anne, the Serjeant of the Commonalty, for the prosecution. The accused found guilty and condemned to lose the freedom of the City.

Fo. 129. *Br'e de judicio reddendo.* Writ to the Mayor and Aldermen for speedy judgment to be given in a plaint between William Maltby, mercer, and John Abbot, late Sheriff, touching a sum of money which the said William claims from the Sheriff, and has been unable to recover owing to dilatory proceedings. Witness the King at Westminster, 4 July, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433].

Return made to the above to the effect that judgment had not been delivered owing to certain difficulties, but that it should be delivered as soon as possible after the Mayor and Aldermen were fully advised.

Aliud Br'e de judicio reddendo. Another writ to the same effect as above. Witness the King at Westminster, 6 July, 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433].

Similar return.

1 Sept., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], John Boteller of co. Leices., "tawyer," discharged by John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

[1] *Sub umbra et colore libertatis in civitatis.*

Fo. 129 b. Be it remembered that on the 27th Sept., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], came the Masters or Wardens of the Mistery of Skinners, and presented eight furs of black budge and lambskins[1] falsely and fraudulently intermixed, as they said, which were found in the possession of Victor de Fyn, one of the merchants coming in "Galeys"[2] into the Port of the City, and they tended a petition to John Perneys, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in these words:—

"To the right gracioux lordes þ^e Mair and Aldermen of the Cite of London Sheweth right mekely the Maistre and Wardeins of the Craft of Skynners of the said Cite in þ^e name of alle þ^e craft þ^t where it is graunted aswell by Kyng Edward þ^e þirde progenitour of our lord the Kyng þ^t now is be his chartre entred in þ^e Chambre of þ^e yeldhalle of London in þ^e book of E in þ^e ciiii^xx iij leef[3] as be certein ordenaunce made and entred in þ^e seid Chambre in þ^e book of G in the clxij leef[4] of þ^e seid Skynners and here successours for evermore for to have the serche and oversight of alle maner furrures brought by eny merchaunt straunger or oþ^er to sell in þ^e said Cite There now divers merchauntes of þ^e Galeys have broght in to þ^e said Cite to selle mony and diverse furres of Bogee[5] wroght untrewely þ^t is to seie where þ^e said furres of Bogee shuld be wroght of hole Skynnes þey ben kutte in foure and medled some with legges some with lambfurres and some with Skewyd[6] and Russet and also evel sowed and untrewe lether and þus þ^e said furres are untrewly wroght ant [*sic*] put to sale to gret disceit and co'e harme of all þ^e Kynges peple Wherfore lyke it un to yow right Worschipfull sires for to ordeign

[1] Budge and lambskin generally supposed to be identical.

[2] Stow relates how of old time there dwelt in Mincing Lane "divers strangers borne of Genoa and those parts, these were commonly called Galley men, as men that came uppe in the Gallies, brought up wines and other merchandises which they landed in Thames Street, at a place called Galley Key." 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 132.

[3] 'Cal. Letter-Book E,' p. 226. Cf. 'Memorials,' p. 153.

[4] 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 197. Cf. 'Memorials,' pp. 328-30.

[5] Budge.

[6] Probably some mixed colour. Cf. a skew-bald horse.

and deme after youre wyse discrec'ons þ^t alle the said furres be forfaited as right will and þ^t no such manere furres as is aforesaid falsely wrought be suffred to be solde Withynne þ^e seid Cite nor þ^e Fraunchise þerof fro þis tyme forth for goddes love and in wey of charyte."

The petition having been read and both parties heard, the Court finds that the aforesaid charter and ordinances do not warrant the petition; but inasmuch as the Court was satisfied that the packing of the furs (*pakkatura furrurarum*)[1] was deceitful and not good, it decrees that this time the said Victor shall remove them out of the kingdom, and he and the rest of the merchants are warned not to bring defective goods into the country in future, under penalty.

18 Sept., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the guardianship of John, son of William Lynne, late grocer, together with his patrimony, committed by John Perneys, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to Alice his mother. Sureties, viz., Richard Cawdre, clerk, Thomas Wandesford, mercer, and Godewin Cattesby, grocer. Fo. 130. *Custodia.*

17 Nov., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the custody of divers pieces of plate, &c., belonging to Henry, one of the sons of Alexander Miles, late taverner (*pandoxator*), committed by John Brokle, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Bolle, grocer, with whom the said orphan was placed as apprentice. Sureties, viz., Alan Johnson and Giles West, grocers, John Cok and Peter Pope, drapers. *Custodia.*

31 July, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came the above John Bolle before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and delivered the above articles to John Chichele, the Chamberlain, who gave a discharge for the same.

17 Nov., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the guardianship of Alexander, another son of the above Alexander Miles, together with divers pieces of plate, committed by John Brokle, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Fekenham, "brewer." Fo. 130b. *Custodia.*

[1] *I.e.*, the make-up of the furs. Cf. "pakkure" ('Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 197), which Riley interprets "padding or stuffing."

Custodia. 19 Dec., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], the guardianship of Idonea, daughter of Johanna Wolaxcon, widow, committed by the same to John Brekles, draper. Sureties, viz., Robert Cristendom, draper, and William Russon, attorney.

[Fo. 131 *blank*.]

Fo. 131 b. Monday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], in the presence of John Perneys, the Mayor, John Symond, the Recorder, Nicholas Wottone, Thomas Fauconer, John Michell, John Gedney, William Estfeld, John Reynwell, John Welles, Ralph Barton, Robert Whityngham, Thomas Wandesford, Henry Frowyk, John Brokle, Robert Ottele, Stephen Broun, William Melreth, John Pattesle, Robert Large, and William Rus, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Thomas Chaltone was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and John Lynge was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty, for the year ensuing.

Eleccio Johannis Brokle in Maiorem London'. Wednesday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], in the presence of John Perneys, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Symond, the Recorder, Henry Bartone, Nicholas Wottone, Thomas Faukener, John Michell, John Reynwell, John Gedney, William Estfeld, John Welles, Ralph Bartone, Thomas Wandesford, Henry Frowyk, John Brokle, Robert Large, John Pattesle, Robert Ottele, William Melreth, William Rus, John [*sic*][1] Bernwell, John Lynge [*struck through*], and Thomas Chaltone, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, John Brokley was elected Mayor.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer at Westminster.

Fo. 132. *Names of Masters of divers Misteries sworn anno 12 Henry VI.*

Copersmythes: Thomas Bedell, Simon Gamme, sworn 19 Sept.

[The rest of the folio and also fo. 132 b *blank*.]

[1] Mistake for Thomas.

6 Dec., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], John Parys, tailor, discharged by John Brokle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 133.

Writ to Sheriffs, Mayors, Bailiffs, &c., that they allow men of the King's vill of Donewich *alias* "Degeleswiz"[1] to be quit of all toll, inasmuch as the said vill is of the ancient demesne of the Crown, and as such the men of the vill should be so quit according to the custom of the realm. *Donewyche de Antiquo Dominico Corone Anglie.*

13 Nov., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433], came Thomas Coper and John Hecheman, Wardens of the Mistery of Dyers, and John Lacy, John Wilby, William Hoker, John Horell, Thomas Cokys, Thomas Warvyle, John Ludford, Thomas Basset, John Cresaltone, Thomas Wylershey, John Becke, Robert Brembille, Richard Haryet, Bartholomew Corsse, Thomas Coldam, William Danyell, and William Neubolt, good men of the said Mistery, and complained to John Brokley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, of "wolde" that was imported being forestalled and engrossed by certain men of the Mistery to their own profit and to the prejudice of the poorer members. They prayed, therefore, that it might be decreed that no one of the Mistery should be allowed to buy woad (*waldam*) except the Wardens, under penalty of 100*s*., viz., 63*s*. 4*d*. to the use of the Commonalty, and 36*s*. 8*d*. to the use of the Mistery, and that the woad so bought should be fairly distributed among all the members, both poor and rich. They further prayed that no one of the Mistery should thenceforth pay more than a yearly salary of 40*s*. to any servant, besides victual and clothing, under a like penalty. Their petition granted. Fo. 133 b. *Dyers.*

15 Jan., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433-4], William Twyere, draper, discharged by John Brokle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, owing to increasing old age.

[1] Dunwich, co. Suffolk, a town that has been almost entirely swallowed up by the sea. It was granted by William the Conqueror to Robert Malet, a Norman Baron, and on his disgrace it fell to the Crown and became a royal demesne. The spelling of the name here is remarkable. In the Domesday Book it appears as "Duneuuic."

Fo. 134. *De Scawanga.*

To the illustrious and discrete lords William Cheyne, William Babyngton, and John Juyn, Justices and Knights appointed to hear the evidence of parties and causes subscribed and to report their finding to the Lords of the Council, the Mayor and citizens humbly submit a report to the following effect:—

That from time immemorial a certain custom called "scawang" or "scawagium," charged on all merchandise brought by foreigners by land or water to the City for sale, has belonged to the Sheriffwick of the said City, and that the Kings of England in succession, when the Sheriffwick was in their hands, were seised of the said custom as one of the principal appurtenances to the said Sheriffwick.

They say also that the term "scawang" is a Saxon term meaning in English "shewing," Latin *demonstracio*, and that the custom is so called because all foreign merchants bringing merchandise to the City for sale showed the same to the Royal officers there in order that the custom due thereon might be levied before it was sold. They also say that King John and King Henry III. his son, ancestors of the present King, granted and confirmed to the citizens *inter alia* the said Sheriffwick of London and Middlesex with all its appurtenances, among which was, and is, the said custom of "scawang," to hold the same at an annual rent of £300 payable to the Exchequer, and that the said citizens choose Sheriffs from among themselves whom they will and remove them at will, and those whom they choose they present to the Exchequer to answer there for things appertaining to the Sheriffwick, and failing this the citizens render satisfaction for the fine and ferm. Moreover, they say that the said Henry granted by charter that no one should expose merchandise for sale until the custom thereon had been paid, under penalty of forfeiture. By virtue of which grants the citizens are seised of the said Sheriffwick, of which the custom of scawage, as charged on the aforesaid men of Janua and all other foreign merchants, forms part and parcel.[1]

Fo. 134 b. Afterwards the said King Henry III., by the great charter

[1] Cf. *supra*, fo. 127 b; *infra*, fo. 193.

mentioned in the case (*libello*) submitted to the Justices on behalf of the said merchants of Janua,[1] ordained that the City of London should have all its liberties and customs in full, and that the men of Janua and all other foreign merchants might trade freely in England (unless already publicly prohibited), subject to ancient customs, of which scawage is one, as proved by inquisition preserved in the Exchequer, and hence the said charter, on which the said men of Janua rely, proves that they ought to be so charged rather than be relieved of the duty. Moreover, the said Sheriffwick and the City's liberties and customs had been confirmed by later Kings down to Henry VI., and were not subject to forfeiture by non-use or abuse.

As to the act (*actum*) mentioned in the case, the Mayor and citizens say that it had not the authority of Parliament as stated, but was a special edict of King Henry IV., without seeing or hearing the parties concerned, and could not derogate from the City's ancient liberties without loss to the Exchequer.

Also, the said Mayor and citizens say that by the terms of the peace late confirmed between the King of England and the Duke of Janua (as mentioned in the case) all merchants of Janua were to be allowed to trade freely in England on the express condition that they paid all accustomed dues, of which the custom of scawage is one.

Also, whereas it is stated in the case that John Welles, late Mayor, and Stephen Broun and John Atherle, then Sheriffs, had caused eight bales of woad belonging to merchants of Janua to be seized for the said custom of scawage, and still detained them, the present Mayor and citizens say that the late Mayor and Sheriffs were willing to prove the justice of the arrest whenever required. Fo. 135.

Also, as to the arrests (mentioned in the case) made by John Pattesle and John Olney, late Sheriffs, during the Mayoralty of John Perneys, the present Mayor and citizens say that long after the arrest—viz., on the 20th Aug., 11 Henry VI.

[1] The case submitted to the Justices by the Genoese merchants does not appear to be recorded in the Letter-Book.

[A.D. 1433]—certain merchants of Janua, named Amphrion Spinula and Simon Cataneus, satisfied the said Sheriffs in respect of the custom of scawage and other dues for merchandise hitherto brought to the City, and undertook by indenture to pay the same in future, which indenture the Mayor and citizens are ready to produce before the said Justices.

In consideration of the foregoing the Mayor and citizens pray the Justices to make a favourable report to the King or his Council.

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12 Feb., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433-4], John Pope, "sherman," discharged by John Brokley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

3 March, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433-4], came William, son of Walter Kyng, and acknowledged satisfaction for patrimony which had been committed in trust to Johanna his mother.

Fo. 135 b. 11 Feb., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433-4], came John Cok, "wevere," before John Brokley, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty in Common Council assembled in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted to the freedom of the City in the Art of Weveres and sworn when Richard Merlawe was Mayor and John Hille Chamberlain, viz., on the 2nd March, anno 5 Henry V. [A.D. 1417–18], he had long used, and was now using, the art of Drapers, and not the art of Weveres. He therefore prayed to be admitted to the freedom of the City in the said Art of Drapers. His prayer granted.

9 March, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433-4], John Byfeld, armourer, discharged by John Brokley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

3 March, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433-4], William Edward, "salter," similarly discharged for like cause.

18 June, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], Walter, son of Walter Adam, of Kersyng, co. Essex, late apprentice to Thomas Godham, late "Foundour," discharged from serving on juries, &c., owing to infirmity.

26 April, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], Henry Aslokby, "Wexchaundeler," similarly discharged for like cause.

Letters patent appointing R[obert Fitz-Hugh], Bishop of London, and John Reynwell, John Welles, John Hatherley, and Thomas Catworth, the City's representatives in the last Parliament, to be Commissioners for allotting the sum of £76 15*s.* 6¼*d.* (part of the sum of £4,000 set apart by the said Parliament out of the subsidy granted for the relief of poor towns, cities, and boroughs[1]) to the poorer Wards of the City, and certifying particulars of allotment to the tax-collectors. Witness the King at Westminster, 27 Dec., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433]. Fo. 136.

Letters patent appointing Thomas Wandesford, Thomas Bernewell, Thomas Canynges, and Robert Cloptone, merchants, to be Commissioners for collecting in the City the subsidy of a fifteenth and a tenth granted by the last Parliament, making allowance for the above sum of £76 15*s.* 6¼*d.* Witness the King at Westminster, 1 Feb., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1433-4]. Fos. 136 b–137.

10 March, 12 Henry IV. [A.D. 1433–4], return made by John Reynwell and John Welles, Aldermen, John Hatherle and Thomas Catworth, Commoners, the City's representatives in the last Parliament, with the assent of Robert [Fitz-Hugh], Bishop of London, of their apportionment of the above sum of £76 15*s.* 6¼*d.* among the poorer Wards of the City, in alleviation of the payment of the tenth granted to the King in the last Parliament, viz., Cordewanestret, £20; Vintry, £9; Tower, £8; Dougate, £8; Chepe, £4 15*s.* 6*d.*; Bisshopesgate, £4; Farndon Within, £4; Colmanstret, £3; Portsoken, £3; Bridge, £3; Walbrok, 40*s.*; Crepilgate, 40*s.*; Bredstret, 40*s.*; Billingesgate, 20*s.*; Bradstret, 20*s.*; Langborn, 20*s.*; Quenhithe, 20*s.*; Lymstret, ¼*d.* Fo. 137 b.

Total reduction, £76 15*s.* 6¼*d.*

Certificate thereon to the King's Collectors. Same date.

Writ to the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Aldermen (pursuant to a request by the Commons) to appear before the Chancellor on Saturday next, and make oath that they would observe a Fo. 138.

[1] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 425.

certain article which the Knights of the shires, citizens, and burgesses attending the last Parliament had sworn to keep,[1] under penalty of £200. Witness the King at Westminster, 24 April, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434].

Fo. 138 b. Pleas at Westminster before William Babyngtone and his fellow-justices of the King's Bench, Trinity term, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434] :—

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to bring up the body of Thomas Langshote, who had been arrested by the Sheriffs whilst engaged with Elizabeth his wife and Juliana Swyft in prosecuting a plea of debt against Walter atte Reye de Hadly, co. Essex, "husbondman." Dated at Westminster, 26 June, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434].

Pursuant to the above, the said Thomas Langshote appeared at the bar in the custody of the Sheriffs on the day appointed, and John Brokle, the Mayor, and John Chaltone and John Lyng, the Sheriffs, explained that the said Thomas had been charged with making false vessels in his trade as "couper" by John Trendeler and John Dunstaple, Wardens of the Mistery, and had been committed to prison until he caused the said vessels, which he had removed to avoid examination, to be brought back. They further say that this was the cause of Thomas's detention, and not a plea of debt before the said Mayor and Sheriffs as alleged.

Thereupon the Justices ordered that the said Thomas should be remitted to prison until, &c.

Fo. 139. Mandamus to the Mayor and Sheriffs not to summon barbers to attend inquests in Sheriffs' Courts, pursuant to an order made on the 20th May, anno 31 Edward III. [A.D. 1357], by Henry Pycard, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, discharging scriveners writing court-hand and text, limners, and barbers

[1] On the 3rd Nov., 1433, the Commons petitioned the King that he would call upon the Duke of Bedford to give his adhesion (as the Duke of Gloucester and the other lords of the Council had already done) to an "article" touching the preservation of peace. Bedford thereupon gave his acceptance, and the Lords and Commons followed suit, but the City is not specially mentioned. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 421-2.

from such duties.[1] Witness the King at Westminster, 21 April, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434].

12 June, 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], came William Colman, fuller, before John Brokle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted to the freedom of the City and sworn in the Art of Fullers *temp.* John Welles, Mayor, and John Bederenden, Chamberlain, viz., on the 19th Jan., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of Shermen, as was testified by good men of that mistery. He prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted to the freedom of the City in the Art of Shermen. His prayer granted at the instance of good men of the same.

2 Sept., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], Richard atte Perie, sherman, discharged by John Brokle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 139 b.

9 Aug., 12 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], the guardianship of John and William, sons of Baldewin Laurence, late baker, together with their property, acquired from their late father and by the decease of Alice and Johanna their sisters, committed by John Brokley, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Bederenden, the Chamberlain, to John Gate, baker, for a term of five years.[2] Sureties, viz., Thomas Morstede, surgeon, John Frankleyn, "taillour," and Thomas Belgrave, "sergeaunt."

13 Oct., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], John Swan, cordwainer, discharged by John Brokley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

27 Oct., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], came John, the Abbot of the monastery of Chertsey, and acknowledged that he had received from Thomas Haseley and Richard Osbarn, executors of John Shawe, late vintner, the sum of £60, the property of Philip, son of the said John, now a professed monk in the above

[1] See 'Calendar Letter-Book G,' p. 88.

[2] Cf. *supra*, p. 41.

monastery, acquired by legacy of his said father and by the decease of John, Edmund, and Alice, other children of the said John Shawe.

26 Feb., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434–5], John Baron, chandler, discharged by Robert Ottele, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 140. Grant by the Mayor and Commonalty to William Trymnell, late one of the Wardens of the City's Bridge, and to William Estfeld, mercer, of an annual rent of £50 charged on the great tenement called "le Stokkes," and other lands and tenements assigned to the use of the said Bridge,[1] in recognition of the services and money expended by the said William Trymnel whilst in office. Dated in the Chamber of the Guildhall under the Common Seal, 26 Oct., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434].

A similar grant to Hugh Wyche, mercer, who married Johanna, widow of Robert Colbroke, late one of the Wardens of the City's Bridge, and to Philip Malpas, draper, for similar cause. Dated 26 Oct., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434].

Fo. 140 b. 23 Oct., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], ordinance by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty, in Common Council assembled, that the ancient privilege of Mayors admitting six persons to the freedom of the City without fine or fee paid to the Chamber should thenceforth cease and be annulled, and that the Chamberlain of the City for the time being shall give to the Mayor for the time being, for surrender of such privilege, four[2] casks of the best red wine of Gascony that can be found for sale in the City, in the name and at the expense of the Commonalty.

Also it was ordained, there and then, that all freemen of the City who have come with their wives and families to reside in the City before the holding of this Council, or shall so come before the Feast of Easter next, shall be esteemed and treated

[1] In 1282 Henry le Galeys, the Mayor for the time being, had made over the Stocks market for the maintenance of London Bridge. See 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' p. 282 n.; 'Liber Cust.,' i. 276-8; 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 242-3.

[2] In 1408 *two* casks formed the amount of compensation for surrender of the privilege. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 64.

as other citizens of the City, the recent ordinance touching loss of their freedom if they came not before Michaelmas last notwithstanding.

Also the same day, in order to prevent unlawful grants in mortmain by wills of citizens, it was ordained that thenceforth no will of any citizen devising lands or tenements in mortmain shall be admitted for enrolment except after strict inquiry made on oath before the Mayor and Recorder for the time being, or one of them, together with an Alderman, whether the said legacy be without deceit or fraud, and be concerned with lands or tenements justly belonging to the testator by inheritance or just acquisition, and not of lands or tenements belonging to others conveyed to him by feoffment *a latere* for the purpose of bequeathing the same in mortmain without the King's licence, under colour of his franchise.[1] Provided always that during the building of the new Chapel of the Guildhall,[2] at the expense of the Commonalty at large, a reasonable fine shall be taken for enrolment of such wills at the discretion of the Chamberlain and Common Clerk of the City for the time being.

Also it was ordained that all amercements inflicted on those not coming to the Common Council, if duly warned, viz., 2*s.* for every default, shall be levied by the serjeants who summon the Councils, and be delivered to the Chamberlain for the time being in aid of the same building; and likewise the amercements for not attending Wardmotes, viz., 4*d.* each person, shall be levied by the Constables and Beadles of each Ward, with the assistance of Serjeants of the Chamber if need be, one moiety thereof to go to the collectors for their trouble and for providing ladders, iron hooks, and cords in case of fire, at the

[1] See 'Cal. of Wills, Court of Husting,' vol. i., Introd., p. xxxvii.

[2] In April, 1430, the King had granted licence to the Mayor and Corporation to pull down the old and ruinous Guildhall Chapel, and to build another and a larger one on the site of an old messuage occupied by the Warden and Chaplains of the College of Chantry Priests situate on the south side of the Guildhall. The licence is set out at length in Price's 'Historical Account of the Guildhall' (pp. 258-9) from Patent Roll, 8 Hen. VI., Part 2, m. 20. Cf. 'Cal. Pat. Rolls Henry VI.,' ii. 57-8. It does not appear to be recorded in the Letter-Book.

discretion of the Alderman of the Ward, and the other to be devoted to the above building.

Also it was ordained by the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty that Piecers (*Picticiarii*[1]) or Cobblers (*Cobularii*) residing within the liberty of the City may thenceforth make a quarter for one piece (*quartam partem pro una pecia*) in an old boot or shoe and sell to any one, according to the ordinance made anno 12 Henry IV. [A.D. 1410], *temp.* Thomas Knolles, Mayor, and recorded in Letter-Book I, fo. cvi, any petition of the Cordwainers or other thing to the contrary notwithstanding.[2]

It was also agreed, the same day and year, that John Houghton, Bailiff of the waters of the Thames and Medewaye, should have a valet or serjeant to serve the Commonalty and him in the execution of his office, receiving for his labour yearly from the Commonalty four nobles, like other valets of the Mayor and the Chamber, so long as it shall please the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty.

Fo. 141. Wednesday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], in the presence of John Brokle, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Symond the Recorder, Henry Bartone, John Mychell, John Reynwell, John Gedney, William Estfeld, John Welles, Ralph Bartone, Robert Whityngham, Henry Frowyk, Robert Ottele, William Melreth, Robert Large, Stephen Broun, John Pattesle, Thomas Bernwell, John Hatherle, Thomas Wandesford, Robert Cloptone, and Thomas Chaltone, Aldermen, it was ordained by the said Mayor and Aldermen that no serjeant of the Mayor, the Chamber, or the Commonalty, nor any one besides the Mayor, the Aldermen, the Recorder, the Chamberlain, the Common Serjeant-at-law, and the Common Clerk of the City (or their clerks in their own absence), shall sit in the inner Chamber of the Council when the

[1] Or *Pictaciarii*, as in Letter-Book I, fo. cvi b. Described by John de Garlande as "viles.....qui consuunt sotulares veteres renovando pictacia (clowtys) et intercucia (waltys) et soleas et inpedeas" (Wright's 'Vocab.,' p. 125).

[2] The Cordwainers had insisted that "pecyng" was a *part* of a "quarter" of a shoe, whilst the Cobblers said it extended to a *whole* "quarter." See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 96.

Mayor and Aldermen are there engaged on public or private business; that, further, the Common Serjeant-at-arms of the City or some deputy shall stand outside, guarding the door of the Chamber, prepared to lead persons in and out, and to do other things as the Mayor may direct.

Also, the same day and year, before the Mayor and Aldermen aforesaid, Thomas Ely, Keeper of the compter of Thomas Bernewell, one of the Sheriffs; John Goos, Keeper of the compter of Simon Eyr, the other Sheriff; Henry Dene, Keeper of the gaol of Ludgate, and John Bottele, Keeper of the gaol of Neugate, were sworn to provide their prisoners with a peck + of coal, full and heaped up, for a halfpenny, a half bushel for a penny, and a bushel for two pence; also with a gallon of the best ale, costing the said Keepers 3 halfpence, for two pence and no more, and that ale that costs more shall not be allowed their prisoners.[1]

Fo. 141 b.

Eleccio Thome Bernewell et Simon' Eyre vic' London'.

Tuesday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], in the presence of John Brokley, the Mayor, John Symond the Recorder, Thomas Fauconer, Henry Barton, John Reynwell, John Gedney, John Welles, Ralph Bartone, Henry Frowyk, John Pattesle, Stephen Broun, Thomas Chaltone, Robert Otteley, Robert Large, William Melreth, and John Hatherle, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Thomas Bernewell, fishmonger, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Simon Eyre, draper, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Chichele,[2] grocer, was elected Chamberlain for the year ensuing; William Wetnale, grocer, and Thomas Badby, fishmonger, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and John Pattesle and Thomas Chalton, Aldermen, and Ralph Holand, John Olney, William Chapman, and

[1] Compare ordinances as to supply of ale, *supra*, pp. 125-6, 126 n.

[2] Son of William Chichele, also grocer and Alderman, and nephew of Robert Chichele, the Mayor (1411-12, 1421-2). His mansion house in Hart Lane became in course of time Bakers' Hall. Stow, 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford, i. 133).

John Sutton, junior, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast they were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Eleccio Roberti Olteley Maioris London'.

Thursday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], in the presence of John Brokley, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Symond the Recorder, Henry Bartone, John Michell, John Reynwell, John Gedney, William Estfeld, John Welles, Ralph Bartone, Robert Whityngham, Henry Frowyk, Robert Oteley, William Melreth, Robert Large, Stephen Broun, John Pattesle, Thomas Bernwell, John Hatherle, Thomas Wandesford, Robert Cloptone, and Thomas Chaltone, Aldermen, Simon Eyr, one of the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Robert Oteley was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fos. 142–143 b.

In the Memoranda of the Exchequer, viz., among the Records, Michaelmas Term, anno 13 Henry VI., Roll [*blank*] on the part of the King's Remembrancer:—

A writ, dated 22 Oct., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], for the due observance of a statute enacted in the last Parliament touching weights and measures as set out.[1]

Whereupon there came before the Barons of the Exchequer on the morrow of the Apostles Simon and Jude, viz., on Friday, the 29th October, John Brokley, William Estfeld, John Welles, Henry Bartone, and many other citizens, and presented Robert

[1] Here follows a copy of cap. viii. of Stat. 11 Henry VI., confirming cap. x. of Stat. 1 Henry V., which enacted that a quarter of corn should contain 8 bushels striken (*rasez*) and no more, and also confirming cap. v. of Stat. 8 Henry VI., which enacted that every city, town, and borough should have a common balance with sealed weights.

Otteley to be admitted as their Mayor, and he was so admitted; but instead of taking the ancient oath (as entered in the Red Book of the Exchequer), which he was prepared to take,[1] he was asked to make a further oath to the effect that he would see that the above statute touching weights and measures was duly observed. This he hesitated to do, for reasons stated on his behalf by word of mouth of John Symond, the City's Recorder, unless the Court pressed the matter. Thereupon, by the advice of the Justices of each Bench, viz., William Cheyne, Knt., William Babyngton, Knt., William Westbury, John Martyn, James Strangways, and John Cotesmore, the said Robert Otteley took the oath recorded in the Red Book as his predecessors in the Mayoralty had done, and was ordered by the Barons to take another oath to observe the aforesaid statute, or show sufficient cause in writing why he should be exonerated by the law of the land. At the Mayor's request, a day was appointed for him to come in person before the Barons and either take the oath or show cause why he should not do so. On the day appointed the Mayor appeared and pleaded that by the oath he had already taken he was bound to observe the statute aforesaid touching weights and measures, and all other statutes passed by Parliament; but as regards the having and using in the City a common bushel sealed and agreeing with the Standard bushel in the King's Exchequer, as prescribed by the said statute, he said that he ought not to be charged by law, inasmuch as the City of London is the most ancient and most free city in the realm, and commonly called the King's Chamber, and that the ancient Standard of the lord the King for the tron, the iron ell, as well as the gallon, bushel, quarter, &c., sealed with the ancient seal or iron mark of the lord the King, have been in the City from time immemorial, as the chief City of the realm, and have been in constant use, as shown by various statutes and charters cited by the Mayor. In conclusion, he says that it was never intended by the last statute that the

[1] From this it is clear that a new Mayor had continued to be *sworn*, as well as presented and accepted, before the Exchequer, although it is not always recorded.

Mayor should be made to take any further oath on his election.

Fos. 145 b–146 b. Reply made to the above plea by John Vampage, on behalf of the lord the King, who cited various charters and statutes, and among them Stat. 16 Ric. II. cap. iii., enacting that all weights and measures throughout the realm should accord with the Standard of the Exchequer, and asked that the Mayor might be convicted of contempt.

Thereupon the Mayor replied that, inasmuch as the City's privileges had not been gainsaid, nor had been annulled by any statute, he ought to be acquitted by the Court.

Fo. 144. 4 Dec., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434], the guardianship of Thomas, son of John Frankyssh, called "Boston," late mercer, together with the sum of £1,000, the orphan's patrimony, committed by Robert Otteley, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Thomas Onhond, mercer, one of the executors of the orphan's father.[1]

The same day and year a recognizance was entered into by Thomas Bataille, Thomas Osbarn, Elias Davy, Hugh Wiche, and John Derham, mercers, with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, for the payment of the above sum of £1,000 by Thomas Onhond, mercer, to the above orphan by Christmas, 1437.

22 Aug., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], came the above orphan before Robert Clopton, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for the sum of £500—part of the above sum of £1,000—paid to him by his guardian.

Proclamation to be made forbidding the enforcement of "hokkyng" on the Monday and Tuesday following called "hokkedayes," under penalty of imprisonment and fine.

Fo. 144 b. Writ *pluries* to the Mayor and Sheriff to admit John Forthey as deputy-coroner to Ralph Botiller, the King's Chief Butler, to whom the office of Coroner in the City belongs, but who is unable to attend to it owing to pressure of other business. Witness the King at Westminster, 14 May, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435].

[1] A marginal note : *vacat ista custod' hic quia intratur infra*, fo. 192.

Offic' Coronat'

Return made to the above *sicut alias* to the effect that the City of London is the most ancient and most free city of the realm, and is a County of itself, for itself, and in itself; that before the first Statute of Westminster, by virtue of divers liberties granted by former Kings and confirmed by authority of divers Parliaments, the citizens had elected as Coroner whom they would of themselves; that the said Coroner before the said statute had always executed the duties of the office by the name of the Chamberlain of London,[1] as may be seen in the Rolls of *Iters* held at the Tower *temp.* Richard I., John, Henry III., and Edward I., and other *memoranda* preserved in the King's Treasury; that the said statute enacted[2] that thenceforth suitable Coroners should be elected in every County, of the most leal and discreet knights, who should make lawful attachments and presentments of the Crown, and that Sheriffs should have counter-rolls with the Coroners, as well of appeals as of inquests of attachments, &c. That by virtue of the same statute the election of a Coroner is lawfully made in the City or County of London, and appertains to the Mayor and citizens of the same. Moreover, the office of Coroner in the said City appertains to Ralph Botiller mentioned in the writ. For these and other reasons already shown by us and the rest of the citizens before the King's Council, we ought not to admit John Forthey to the said office, as required in the writ.[3]

Fo. 145.

Custodia corporum pueror' Joh'is Best cum £x.

20 Aug., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], the guardianship of John and Alexander, sons of John Best, late mercer, together with their patrimony, committed by Robert Ottele, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Elena

[1] This must mean the King's (not the City's) Chamberlain. See 'Cal. Letter-Book E,' p. 165 n; Madox, 'Hist. of Exchequer,' p. 765. Cf. "Et nota quod Botellarius domini Regis et Camerarius domini Regis et Coronator idem sunt." 'Lib. Cust.,' i. 296.

[2] Stat. 3 Edward I., cap. x.

[3] This appears to be the first occasion recorded in the Letter-Books that the civic authorities questioned the right of the King to nominate a deputy Coroner, although the terms *pluries* and *sicut alias* point to previous writs and returns.

their mother for a term of three years. Sureties, viz., William Thornhill, mercer, and William Portland.

Tuesday the 14th May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came the above John Best before the Mayor and Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony and for money accruing to him by the death of Alexander his brother.

Exon'acio Will'i Symmes ab assisis.

20 Oct., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], William Symmes, grocer, discharged by Robert Otteley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Custodia corporum pueror' Ric'i Banastre vinetar' cum £cc.

Friday, 26 Aug., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], the guardianship of Alice and John, children of Richard Banastre, late vintner, together with their patrimony, committed by Robert Otteley, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Edmund Sheffeld, vintner. Sureties, viz., Thomas Knolles, junior, grocer, John Walpole, and Richard Stapill, vintners.

[Fos. 145 b-146 b *vide supra*, p. 186.]

Fo. 147.

Whereas every tenement situate near the walls or gates of the City should be distant from the said walls or gates sixteen feet at least, according to the laws and customs of the City, the said intermediate space being the common soil of the City; and whereas Bartholomew Seman, late goldsmith, and Katherine his wife, now wife of Robert Oteley, grocer, were seised of an ancient messuage called "le Swan," formerly belonging to Hugh Croydon, and situate within the gate of Neugate in the parish of St. Sepulchre, near the common soil of the City, and the said Bartholomew had recently built a new tenement upon a portion of the soil of the ancient messuage, as set out by metes and bounds; and whereas the executors of Richard Whityngtone, late mercer, similarly built a certain portion of the new gate of Neugate upon a part of the common soil lying between the said gate and the said new tenement of the said Bartholomew—in order to remove any doubt about the appropriation of the soil by the aforesaid buildings, it was proved and declared, on the 5th Oct., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], that the said new tenement, now belonging to Robert Otteley and Katherine his

wife, is built on private ground, and that sixteen feet of common soil intervenes between it and the City's wall, as is usual.

The same day and year it was placed on record, by order of the Mayor and Aldermen, that part of a leaden pipe bringing water from the Hospital of St. Bartholomew to the prisoners in Neugate is situate, by permission of the said Robert and Katherine, on their private soil within the aforesaid messuage called "le Swan."

Letter from Philip, Duke of Burgundy, to the City of Paris informing the inhabitants of the welfare of himself and family, and reminding them of negotiations having recently taken place with his brother-in-law the Duke of Bourbon at Nevers for a prolongation of the existing truce; and further, how it had been arranged that a meeting should be held at Arras on the 1st July for the purpose of negotiating a general peace between England and France, if the King of England accepted that day. He now informed them that Henry—"his adversary and the adversary of the King of France"—had agreed to the day and would send representatives to the Congress, and that he (the Duke) had desired the King of France to send likewise a goodly number of plenipotentiaries to Arras in order to bring matters to a successful issue. Dated at Dijon, 14 May [A.D. 1435].[1] Fo. 147 b.

27 July, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], Thomas Daunt, painter, discharged by Robert Ottele, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio Thome Daunt ab assis'.*

17 August, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], John, son of John Dryver, senior, of Highestone, who was apprentice of John Clerk, "upholdere," similarly discharged for like cause. *Exon'acio Joh'is Dryver ab assis'.*

Precept to the Aldermen to hold their several Wardmotes, and refer such matters as they were themselves unable to Fo. 148.

[1] Set out by Delpit (*op. cit.*, pp. 251-2). A treaty was eventually concluded at Arras, when the Duke of Burgundy transferred his favour from the English to the French side, and, regardless of the treacherous murder of his father in 1419 by Charles VII. of France, accepted considerable territorial advantages from that monarch, engaging in return to assist him in the recovery of his dominions from the King of England. Monstrelet (trans)., ii. 112-19, 120-1.

remedy to the General Court to be held by the Mayor on Monday after the Feast of Epiphany [6 Jan.]; further, to fine each defaulter 4 pence to the use of the Guildhall; to take steps for the preservation of the peace, the lighting of the streets, &c.; and to cause a certain number of men, freemen of the City either by birth or apprenticeship, and not by redemption,[1] to be elected to be members of the Common Council. Dated under the seal of the Mayoralty, 10 Dec., 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1434].

Letter from the Mayor and Aldermen of the town of Calais to the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London, praying them, as they had been prayed in former times of distress, to use their endeavours with the King and lords of the Council to persuade them to succour the town. The Armagnacs that were in "Rewe"[2] were pressing on and threatening to override Guysnes. They had ravaged "Same de boys"[3] and taken many prisoners, and had burnt "Staples."[4] The neighbouring villages were being deserted, and the town of Calais was crowded with refugees. The writers pray the City of London, as "the principalle of all the cities of the roiaulme of England," to render them similar assistance to that they had rendered on former occasions. Dated at Cales, 27 June [A.D. 1435].[5]

Exon'acio Thome Alfrend ab assisis.

22 Oct., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], Thomas Alfrend, "couper," discharged by Robert Otteley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., on account of deafness.

Fo. 148 b.

Br'e pro parliamento.

Writ to the Sheriffs to cause four citizens to be elected to represent the City in a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the 10th October next. No Sheriff to be returned, and the election to be made pursuant to the terms of Stat. 8 Henry VI.,

[1] This limitation is first recorded in 1430. *Vide supra*, p. 117. At other times, those to be elected are prescribed to be honest and discreet men, without reference to their being in any way freemen of the City. The practice of obtaining the freedom of the City by redemption became so lax that an ordinance was passed by the Common Council in 1433 to bring it within bounds. *Vide supra*, pp. 164-5.

[2] Rue, near the north bank of the Somme. The French had recaptured the town from the English in May, 1435. Monstrelet, i. 103-4.

[3] Samer au bois, near Boulogne.

[4] Etaples.

[5] Printed by Delpit (*op. cit.*, pp. 252-3).

[cap. vii.]. Witness the King at Westminster, 5 July, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435].

Pursuant to the above writ there were elected at the Husting held for Common Pleas on Monday before the Feast of St. Giles [1 Sept.], the year aforesaid, John Michell and Robert Large, Aldermen, John Bederenden, draper, and Stephen Forster, fishmonger, to attend the aforesaid Parliament.

Deed under the Common Seal guaranteeing the repayment of all disbursements made by William Whetnale and Thomas Badby, Wardens of the City's bridge, during their term of office, the said bridge having fallen into a ruinous condition. Dated 27 July, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435].

Fo. 149.

8 April, 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], ordinance of the Common Council that thenceforth no one who had twice filled the office of Mayor should be called upon to fill it a third time, and that whosoever should be elected shall be an Alderman at the time of election[2] and have served as Sheriff.[3]

Q'd nullus sit ultra bis Maior.

P'sentacio ad cantariam Joh'is Pulteney.

Letter from Robert Otteley, the Mayor, to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's presenting Walter Chaddesley, chaplain, for admission to the second of the three chantries founded in St. Paul's Church for the souls of Sir John Pulteney, Knt., and Sirs William Milford and John Plesseys, formerly Archdeacons of Colcestre, vacant by the resignation of Henry Gunne. Dated under the Mayoralty seal, 4 March, A.D. 1434[-5].

9 Nov., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], came William Osbarn, who married Alice, daughter of Richard Banastre, late vintner, before John Michell, the Mayor, and acknowledged that he had received from Edmund Sheffeld, vintner, by the hands of John Chichele, the Chamberlain, the sum of £100.[4]

[1] Regulating the elections of knights of the shire, and fixing the 40*s.* freehold as the qualification of electors. The statute is recorded in full *supra*, fos. 79-83b.

[2] The following are instances of the election of Mayors who were not Aldermen *at the time of election*, viz., Nicholas Brembre in 1377 and 1383, John Hadlee in 1379, and John de Northampton in 1381.

[3] In Feb., 1383-4, it was ordained that thenceforth no one should be elected Mayor who had not previously served as Sheriff. 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 277.

[4] Cf. *supra*, p. 188.

Fos. 149 b-150 b. Be it remembered that after the Statute of Weights and Measures made *temp.* King John, and the Statute of the Great Charter made *temp.* King Henry III., and the Statutes of Assize of bread and beer made *temp.* Edward I., which respectively recite and confirm the ancient standards of the King for the gallon, bushel, and quarter of London as the only measure for wine, beer, and corn to be used throughout the realm—the lord Edward II., late King of England, by divers writs commanded a large number of measures to be made and proved by his said standards of London, and to be sent into divers counties and places of England for measuring, no other measures being allowed to be used, under heavy penalty, as more plainly appears from the following records.[1]

* * * * *

Afterwards the lord Edward III., late King of England, considering that the said standards of measures previously sent were too few, and wishing that one measure of wine and beer, and one measure of corn, viz., the quarter of London, should be used throughout the realm, decreed, with the authority of the Parliament held at Westminster on Sunday after Mid-Lent, anno 14 of his reign, that the Treasurer should cause other standards to be sent to each county similar to those already sent.

By these statutes, writs, &c., it is plain that in the times of the aforesaid King John, Henry III., and Edward I., II., and III., all the standards of measures sent to divers parts of the realm were proved by the King's standards of London, a thing unnecessary if there had been another lawful standard kept at that time in the Exchequer.

Fo. 151. Memorandum of an assay made of the King's measures by the City's standards at the Guildhall on Thursday after the Feast of St. Gregory [12 March], anno 14 [Edward II., A.D. 1320–1].[2]

[1] Here follow divers writs, &c., touching weights and measures, and the names of those appointed in the several counties to search for such weights and measures as did not tally with the King's standards of London as forwarded to divers parts of the realm.

[2] The proceedings, which appear to have taken place during an ad-

Eleccio Henrici Frowyk Maioris London'.

Thursday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], in the presence of Robert Otlee, the Mayor, John Symond the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, John Reynwell, John Gedney, William Estfeld, John Welles, John Brokle, Henry Frowyk, John Pattesle, Stephen Broun, Thomas Chaltone, William Milreth, John Hatherle, Thomas Catworth, Robert Cloptone, Ralph Holand, William Gregory, John Michell, Robert Large, Thomas Bernewell, and John Olney, Aldermen, Robert Cloptone and Thomas Catworth, Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Henry Frowyk was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast he was presented, accepted, admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 151 b.

The Ordenaunce of Turnours.

7 Oct., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], a bill presented to the Mayor and Aldermen by John White and John Hendon, Wardens of the craft of Turners, complaining of divers "foreins" making certain measures, viz., "Bussheltrees," "half busshel trees," and "pekkes," with "sappe" and green timber, and selling them by wholesale and retail within the City to freemen as well as "foreins" as truly wrought of dry and "clonghe"[1] timber; which measures, when sealed and put to use and are "clong," are deficient in measure to the extent sometimes of a quart in a bushel. They pray, therefore, that the Wardens of the Craft for the time being may have the search and oversight of all such measures brought into the City by "foreins" before they be put to sale, to see that they be not made of green timber nor "sappy," but well "clonge" and dry. They further pray that certain places may be assigned

journment of the oppressive *Iter* which was being held at the Tower, are recorded in the 'Liber Custumarum,' i. 382-3. On this occasion the City bushel was found to be more true than the King's, whilst the City's weight of 8 marks was found to be deficient to the extent of 2½*d.*

[1] "Clung"=shrunk. Cf. "When thaire huske is drie and clonge." 'N. E. D.,' *s.v.*

to such "foreins" where they may sell their "chaffare" and nowhere else. Their prayer granted, one of the houses under the Mayor's Court or Chambers at "Theldhall" being so assigned until further order.

Fo. 152 *Pro gardimote.* Precept to the Aldermen to hold their several Wardmotes, and to report such matters as they themselves cannot remedy to the General Court to be held by the Mayor at the Guildhall on Monday after the Epiphany [6 Jan.]; and further, to take steps for the preservation of the peace, the cleansing of the streets, &c., and cause a certain number of powerful and discreet men of their Ward to be returned to the Common Council. Dated under the Mayoralty seal, 8 Dec. [A.D. 1435].

14 Dec., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], came Richard, son of William Waldern, late mercer, and acknowledged that he had received from John Chichele, the Chamberlain, by the hands of Thomas Donyngton, certain rents due to him.

Fo. 152 b. 23 Jan., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435-6], William Munde, "talghchaundeller," discharged by Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Letter under their official seals from Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and Alexander Anne the Recorder, to the Keeper of the Spiritualities of the Bishopric of London, *sede vacante*,[1] presenting Thomas Croxby, a chaplain of the diocese of Lincoln, for admission to the chantry of Roger Depham, late Alderman, at the altar of SS. Katherine and Margaret in the church of St. Swithin, vacant by the death of Sir Rotheland Archebaud. Dated 9 Feb., A.D. 1435[-6].

Exon'acio Will'i "Marowe" ab ass'. 20 April, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], William "Mawere," "taillour," discharged by Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to his constant attention to the poor mad inmates of the Hospital of St. Mary de Bedlem without Bisshopesgate.

23 May, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], Sir John Paslewe, chaplain, John Wokkyng, vintner, and William Morys, fishmonger,

[1] Robert Fitz-Hugh had died on the 15th Jan., and his successor in the see, Robert Gilbert, was not appointed until the following May.

executors of John Seynt John, ordered by the Mayor and Aldermen to bring into Court the sum of £258 due to Thomas, son of the said John Seynt John, before the 19th June.

Extract from the King's Remembrancer Roll, Michaelmas Term, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], recording proceedings taken against Henry Frowyk, the Mayor [similar to those recorded *supra*, pp. 184–6, as having been taken against Robert Otteley], for refusing to take a supplementary oath before the Barons of the Exchequer for the due observance of the statute touching weights and measures passed anno 11 Henry VI. The City's case stated by Alexander Anne the Recorder. *Cur. ad. vult.* A day given, viz., up to the quinzaine of St. Hillary [13 Jan.], for Henry Frowyk to hear judgment. Fos. 153-155.

17 Sept., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], the guardianship of Thomas, son of Nicholas Warner, late grocer, committed by Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to Richard Onhand, draper, for a term of seven years. Sureties, viz., Thomas Hardyng, draper, and Thomas Onhand, mercer. Fo. 155. *Custodia liberi Nich'i Warner.*

17 Sept., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], the guardianship of John, son of Nicholas Warner, similarly committed to William Bothe, grocer, for a term of seven years. Sureties, viz., Thomas Canynges and John Luttour, grocers. Fo. 155 b. *Custodia Joh'is lib'i Nich'i Warner.*

15 Feb., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435-6], came William Morys, John Knot, John Wokkyng, and Thomas Kyng into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into a bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 800 marks for the production in Court of William Morys and John Wokkyng, executors of John Seynt John, on Friday the 24th Feb., to answer for money due to Thomas, son of the said John Seynt John.

Letters patent appointing Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, William Cheyne, John Fray, Alexander Anne, William Estfeld, John Brokley, John Throkmerton, Robert Whytyngham, Thomas Walsyngham, and the Sheriffs to be Commissioners for assessing in the City the subsidy granted by the last Fo. 156.

Parliament,[1] viz., 2*s.* 6*d.* on an income of 100*s.*; 6*d.* in the pound up to £100; 8*d.* in the pound over £100 and up to £400; and 2*s.* in the pound over £400.[2] Witness the King at Westminster, 29 Jan.,14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435-6].

Fo. 156 b. Inquisition taken at the Guildhall, pursuant to the above, by oath of the following men of each Ward, viz.:—

Aldrichgate: John Stakkendene, John Werke, Thomas Longe, and William Moubray.

Crepulgate: Thomas Martyn, John Worsope, William Taverner, and Thomas Wright.

Farndone Within: John Huberd, Thomas Knovile, William Couper, and Thomas Reyner.

Farndone Without: William Auntrous, William Peper, John Hurloke, and James Knyght.

Bredstret: Thomas Stalbrok, Richard Vyncent, Thomas Cressy, and John Ingram.

Baynardescastel: John Fulborne, John Style, Hugh Dene, and John Sygor.

Quenhithe: Antony Astell, William Groos, and Rouland Caundisshe.

Vintry: William Abraham, John Wokkyng, William Scarburgh, and John Lillyk.

Bassyngeshawe: Thomas Bataille and John Bartone.

Colmanstret: Thomas Dentone and John Arnald.

Chepe: William Hervy, John Routhe, John Notebrom, and Thomas Shirwynd.

Cordewanerestrete: Robert Baytone, Saier Acre, John Ray, and John Gay.

Candelwykstrete: Robert Pellican, John Wotton, Geoffrey Chyttok, and John Kent.

Bridge: Thomas Folborne, William Bandone, Thomas Leget, and Thomas Robelard.

Walbrok: Thomas Holme, John Luttour, Richard Burdone, and Richard Alley.

[1] 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 486-7.

[2] This heavy graduated income tax was of a novel character at that time, although in after years it became "too familiar." Stubbs, 'Const. Hist.,' iii. 122.

Dougate: John Artall, John Stone, Richard Gerveys, and John Grene.

Langbourne: John Burley, John Halman, John Scarborogh, and Richard Lonney.

Cornhulle: John William, John Crompe, William Dillowe, and Stephen Grene.

Bradstret: Adam Semy, Richard Bradcok, Nicholas Dowelond, and John Lewgor.

Bisshoppesgate: Simon Bornham, Thomas Richer, John Brawell, and John Louthe.

Tower: John Costyn, Richard Stowe, Giles West, and John Bolle.

Billynggesgate: William Child, William Morys, John Bedham, and William Marwe.

Portsoken: John Domer, Geoffrey Bridde, Richard Hylle, and Roger Baroun.

Algate: Robert Russe and John Hoke.

Lymstrete: John Berstone and John Bonantre.

On the 19th March the above jurors made their return to the Commissioners of the names of those liable to the tax, and these were thereupon summoned to appear before the Commissioners to be examined. The names and the amount to which each was found liable were recorded on rolls. [Particulars not recorded in the Letter-Book.]

Fo. 157. *Ordinacio Zonarior'.*

Petition [undated] of the good men of the Craft of "Gurdillers" to the Mayor and Aldermen that articles touching the craft made on Saturday after the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr [7 July], anno 18 Edward III. [A.D. 1344],[1] may be amended as follows:—

The first article touching the length and assize of tissue of silk, wool, and thread, they say, cannot be kept, because it was only ordained for tissues called "bastardis,"[2] which always were made of one length and assize, and so may it remain, but

[1] The articles are set out in 'Memorials,' pp. 216-17, from Letter-Book F. They were confirmed ten years later. See 'Cal. Letter-Book G,' p. 66.

[2] Imitations of more expensive material. 'Drapers' Dict.,' *s.v.*

they pray that "they may harneys all other maner corses of what length or assise that thei be after the desyre of her Chapmen, the seid olde ordenaunce nat w^t^stondyng."

The article that no tissue of silk, wool, thread, or leather that was of the size of "seszein," "cynkeyn," "treszein," or "doublein" should be garnished, unless it had double "naille" in the "bocle" and "pendant,"[1] and also the bars with double "naille" with a "ryvet"[2] under, that is to say of "cloos-harneys" as well as of other,—

This, they say, they cannot keep, because the terms of "seszein," &c., are strange and unknown to them, and they desire that the following ordinance may take its place, viz., "that no manere tissue nor garter hereafter be garnisshid.....but it be double nayled in the bocle and in the pendant also and that the gurdyng barres be sufficient to bere the gurdyng and that they be sette on with double naille with revettes under And that all other barras be rivetted under except pipid barres souded that ben substanciall to rivet hem self except also small botenettz that atteyne nat to the brede of a ferthyng of silver."

Fo. 157 b. As to the ordinance forbidding work on the Saturday or the eves of double Feast[3] after "noone" rung; the petitioners say that it was never thereby intended that the Feasts of St. "Austyn," St. Barnard, and other double Feasts which the Church had not commanded to be observed in the City should be included. They say also that "non" is rung sometimes at 11 o'clock, sometimes at 12, and sometimes at 1 P.M., and these divers ringings produce discord. They pray, therefore, that the following may be substituted for the ordinance, viz.:

[1] *Mordaunt* (F.). Cf. note, *supra*, p. 65.

[2] *Ruel* (F.).

[3] Described as a feast on which the antiphon, or short versicle said before and after the Psalms, was repeated at length, or "doubled," before and after. On ordinary feasts only part of it was said before. (Orby Shipley, 'Glossary of Ecclesias. Terms.') The explanation of "double feast" as given by the editor of the 'Memorials,' viz., "when two feasts or festivals fall on the same day," is open to question. In 1423 flecchers were forbidden to open their shops on any feast having a *double vigil* (*supra*, p. 11). Such a feast may possibly have been known as a double feast.

"That non of the seid Crafte wirke in the same Crafte the Saturday nor the evens of the festes of the Assumpcion, Nativite, Concepcion, Purificacion and Annunciation of our lady seint Marie nor the evens of Apostles that ben fastyd nor on the evens of the Nativite, Circumcision, Epiphanye, ad [*sic*] Assencion of owre lord Jesu Crist nor on the evens of Corporis Christi, Nativite of Seint John Baptist, Seint Laurence and All Halowes after xii of the clok smyten atte noone."

They pray that the ordinance forbidding the working "Roset" or "tirlet" be annulled as they do not understand those terms.

They further pray that the ordinance forbidding any of the craft to open his shop on Sundays and double Feasts may be restricted to Sundays and Feasts prescribed *supra*.

As regards the ordinance forbidding working by night they pray that it may be restricted to work which is "overstreite," and that they may be allowed to "cerge, brusshe and sorte" their ware by night notwithstanding the said ordinance.

The ordinance forbidding the making of "gurdelles" of worse leather than "oxe lethir" they pray to be withdrawn, and that they may be allowed to use any suitable leather, inasmuch as ox-leather was not so much used as in old time.

The ordinance touching fines amended to the effect that one-half shall go to the alms-box of the craft, instead of the whole going to the use of the Chamber.

Lastly, they pray that no one of the craft on the Saturdays or the evens of the Feasts above specified after xii o'clock at noon or by night shall "cute thonges to be hernysid.....nor naile ne smyte gurdels ne thownges for gurdles ne chape bokels[1] ne poynte wyre for gurdels ner hole gurdels for pipid-barres ne wirke nor sette on bokels nor oþer harneys belongyng to þe makyng of gurdels except cheynes and ryngis; and also that none of the seid Craft here after sette in werk to the sale[2] chape pendant nor barre but such as ben and shull be made

[1] To put "chapes" or loops on buckles through which the strap passes. 'N.E.D.,' *s.v.*

[2] Apparently some part of a girdle, but what part it is difficult to ascertain.

and wrought by persons enfraunchised of the seid Craft w^{t} in þis Citee on the peyne above expressid."

The above petition granted.

Fo. 158. *Ordinacio Zonarior'.*

10 Nov., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], petition of good men of the Craft of Girdelers to the Mayor and Aldermen, setting forth that an ordinance had been made of old time by the Craft to the effect that no man of the Craft should have more than two apprentices together, but he might take another apprentice for a year and a half or two years to fit him for taking the place of an out-going apprentice; that the ordinance had long been observed and had proved beneficial to the Craft, but that lately divers of the Craft, understanding that the ordinance had not been enrolled in the Guildhall and that no penalty attached to its non-observance, had taken many apprentices "in so muche þat nowe adayes þer is so gret abondaunce of apprentices of þ^{e} seid craft þat many freemen of þ^{e} same craft which have but small quantitee of goodes of their owen and were wont to live by þ^{e} werk þat þei made to oþer men of the same craft may now have no werk w^{t} in þe seid craft but some of hem be come Waterberers and laborers and som of hem gone home ageyn to her owen contreys and gone to cart and plough and leven this Citee for ever to grete repreef and sclaundre aswele to all þis worthy citee as to the craft aforeseid." They therefore pray that the said ordinance may be enrolled in the Guildhall to be thenceforth observed, under penalty of 100*s.* They further pray that it may be ordained that no one of the Craft attend any Fair, Chepyng, or Market until the Wardens of the Craft have examined his wares to see if they be good and able for the King's people, under penalty.

And forasmuch as many girdles have been brought into the City whereof the buckles have been made of "feble stuffe, and sette on unfyled wherthurgh þe stuffe þer of might nat be knowen whether it were able or nat," they pray that it may be ordained that "no bokels of latone iren nor steell, except bokels for halpenyware, herafter be sette a werk by ony of þ^{e} seid craft but suche as shull be wele and clenly and also

suffisantly filed and wroght, so þat by þe filyng þer of it may verailly be knowen whether the stuffe of þe bokels be able or nat," under penalty prescribed.

Their prayer granted during the pleasure of the Court.

1 Feb., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435–6], came Geoffrey Boleyn, Fo. 158 b. "hatter," before Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Hatter *temp.* John Gedney, Mayor, and John Bederenden, Chamberlain, viz., on the 23rd June, anno 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], he had long used, and was now using, the art of Mercery and not the art of Hatter. He therefore prayed that he might be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Mercery. His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Art, viz., Robert Large, John Dawtre, William Olyver, John Sturgeon, Richard Riche, Thomas Bataille, and others [not named].

22 March, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435-6], came John Legge, fishmonger, before Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Fishmonger on the 26th July, anno 6 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], he had long used, and was now using, the art of Vintner and not the art of Fishmonger. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Vintner. His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Art, viz., Guy Sholdham, Nicholas Kent, Thomas Style, Robert Kyngesson, and others [not named].

24 May, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], John Kellyk, vintner, discharged by Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

10 Sept., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], came Stephen, son of Stephen[1] Barry, late "stokfisshmonger," before the Mayor and Aldermen, and acknowledged that he had received from John Maynard, executor of Robert Barry, the sum of £20, which the said Robert left by will to the said Stephen his son.

[1] Probably a clerical error for Robert.

Fo. 159. *Custodia.*

22 May, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], the guardianship of Richard, son of John Joynour, late "irmonger," together with his patrimony and divers vessels of silver, committed by Henry Frowik, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to John Wakeryng, Master of the Hospital of St. Bartholomew, near Smythfeld. Sureties, viz., Robert Marchall, grocer, William Scarburgh, vintner, William Olyver and John Willam (?), mercers.

28 May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Thomas Knollys, grocer, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and became one of the above sureties in place of Robert Marchall.

21 June, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], came Thomas atte Gate of Bealbroughton, co. Worces., an apprentice of Thomas Ankes, fuller, before Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Fullers *temp.* William Waldern, Mayor, and John Proffyt, Chamberlain, viz., on the 3rd Nov., anno 14 Henry IV. [A.D. 1412], he had long used, and was now using, the art of "Shermans" and not the art of Fullers. He prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Shermannes." His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Art, viz., William Spaldyng, John Horold, Nicholas Wylard, Thomas Halman, John Buyggham, Matthew Stygan, and others [not named].

Exon'acio Joh'is Fynch ab assisis.

8 Oct., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], John Fynch, salter, discharged by Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 159 b. *Exon'acio Will'i Warde ab assisis.*

12 Sept., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], William Warde, draper, similarly discharged for like cause.

Exon'acio Will'i Rede ab assisis.

20 Oct., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], William Rede, "fruyterer," similarly discharged for like cause.

Exon'acio Assaitor' Corii ab assisis.

10 Oct., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], Thomas Robenet, Thomas Ricard, Clement Glascombe, and William Brownyng, Masters of the Mistery of Cordwainers, similarly discharged on account of

their being engaged every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on the scrutiny and assay of leather exposed for sale in the City.

Friday, 12 Oct., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], ordinance by Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, Nicholas Wotton, John Michell, John Reynwelle, William Estfeld, John Welles, John Brokle, Thomas Wandesford, Robert Large, William Melreth, Thomas Bernwell, John Atherlee, Thomas Catteworth, William Gregory, John Olney, and John Suttone, Aldermen, sitting in the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, that Hugh Asshe should thenceforth be one of the three permanent Serjeants-at-mace attending the Mayor for the time being—the other two being Thomas Holgreve and Ralph Vernon — and receive the accustomed fee and reward.

Commission, by advice of the King's Great Council, to Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, William Cheyne, John Fray, and Alexander Anne, to inquire upon oath of good men of the City touching the truth of matters alleged in a petition presented by Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, to the effect that Henry Percy, late Lord Percy, granted to Henry Percy his son in tail a certain messuage, with shop, garden, &c., in the parish of St. Agnes without Aldresgate,[1] and that the said son became seised thereof *per formam doni*[2] in the time of King Edward III., and the same messuage, &c., should have so descended to the petitioner, but that King Henry IV., by divers letters patent dated 22 July, anno 6 of his reign [A.D. 1405], and 8 April, anno 7 [A.D. 1406], granted the aforesaid messuage, &c., to Queen Johanna, his Consort, by the name of the Hostel of the Earl of Northumberland, the same having become forfeited to the King owing to the Earl's treason;[3] and the same King by other Fo. 160.

[1] Northumberland House, in St. Martin's Lane, Aldersgate (Stow's 'Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 309).

[2] Otherwise known as a writ of *formedon*, which enabled a tenant in tail to recover his estate *per formam doni*, *i.e.*, according to the form of the gift, in spite of any attempt made to destroy the entail.

[3] The first Earl was attainted in 1406 and died in 1408. Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 228n.

letters patent, dated 17 June, anno 11 [A.D. 1410], granted the reversion of the said messuage after the death of the said Queen to John, late Duke of Bedford,[1] at whose death the reversion devolved upon King Henry VI., the said Duke's nephew, and so remains in the said King's hands.

The Earl therefore prays that consideration may be paid to the foregoing, and that justice may be done to him accordingly. Witness the King at Westminster, 17 Dec., 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435].[2]

Fo. 160 b. Writ to the Sheriff to make proclamation forbidding the molestation of any natives of Flanders residing in England who remain loyal to the King of England and France, and have not been led astray from their allegiance by the wiles of the so-called Duke of Burgundy[3] and Count of Flanders. It is the King's will, however, that such Flemings should personally come to the King's Chancery and there take an oath of fealty by the Feast of Pentecost next [27 May]. Witness the King at Westminster, 28 March, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].[4]

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation forbidding the spreading of seditious reports and to arrest those they find so doing and return their names into Chancery. Witness the King at Westminster, 4 May, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all soldiers, knights, esquires, &c., in the retinue of Richard, Duke of York, Richard, Earl of Salisbury, and William, Earl of Suffolk, to leave the City and hasten to Wynchelse,[5] there to muster by Thursday next at the latest. Witness the King at Westminster, 1 May, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

[1] The Queen continued to hold the property, which came to be known as "Queen Johanne Wardrobe," until her death in July, 1437 (Stow's 'Survey,' ed. Kingsford, ii. 343; Gregory, p. 180). Bedford had predeceased her by nearly two years.

[2] From a note in Kingsford's ed. of Stow's 'Survey' (ii. 343) already referred to, we learn that the Earl eventually succeeded in recovering his City mansion.

[3] He had recently forsaken the English cause, and had thrown in his lot with Charles VII. of France.

[4] Set out by Delpit (*op. cit.*, p. 265).

[5] Gregory ('Chron.,' p. 178) states that this year (1436) the Mayor, after consultation with the crafts, "sent sowdyers to Calys for hyt was sayde

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all brewers of "Biere" within their bailiwick to continue to exercise their art as hitherto, notwithstanding the malevolent attempts that were being made to prevent natives of Holand and Seland and others who occupied themselves in brewing the drink called "Biere" from continuing their trade, on the ground that such drink was poisonous and not fit to drink, and caused drunkenness, whereas it was a wholesome drink, especially in summer time. Such attacks had already caused many brewers to cease brewing, and would cause greater mischief unless stopped. Witness the King at Westminster, 15 June, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436]. Fo. 161.

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all those who were willing to join John, Earl of Huntyngdon, Admiral of England, or his deputy, in his expedition against the so-called Duke of Burgundy and Count of Flanders, who was threatening Calais and its marches, to proceed to Dover, Sandwich, or "les Dounes" with all speed, where they would be provided with free passage and all other necessaries. Witness the King at Westminster, 18 June, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436]. Fo. 161 b.

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for merchants to send to Calais all kinds of victual, together with bows, arrows, and cords for bows, for the use of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Captain of the town of Calais,[1] who was about to set sail for France. Witness the King at Westminster, 5 July, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation enjoining all makers of armour, artillery, and other weapons of war in the

that the Duke of Burgone lay sege unto Calis..... And at the Parlyment be-fore hyt was ordaynyde that the Duke of Yorke shulde in to Fraunce with certayne lordys with hym..... And whythe hym went the Erle of Salysbury." Cf. Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London' (Cleopatra C iv., fo. 53), p. 141.

[1] Bedford having died in September, 1435, Gloucester had been appointed in the following November the King's Lieutenant in the town and marches of Calais as well as in Picardy, Flanders, and Artois. Rymer, x. 624; 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 483-4.

City to sell such armour, &c., at a reasonable price, and forbidding all armourers, bow-makers, and arrow-makers (*petilliarii*[1]), and their servants, to demand unreasonable payment for their labour. Witness the King at Westminster, 6 July, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation forbidding the molestation of Flemish merchants and others in the City who had taken an oath of allegiance to the King, and ordering the arrest of those found acting to the contrary. Witness the King at Canterbury,[2] 21 July, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Fo. 162. Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all knights, esquires, and others who were bound to cross the sea in the retinue of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, for the purpose of saving and defending the town of Calais, to hurry with all speed to Sandwich, as the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen [22 July] (by which day they ought to be there) was at hand, and the King himself was at Canterbury to attend to their passage. Witness the King at Canterbury, 21 July, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Writ to the Sheriffs relating how an expedition was about to set out under Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, Captain of Calais, for the purpose of succouring and defending that town, and how the forces had been commanded to muster at Sandwich by the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen [22 July] at the latest, and bidding them make proclamation against enhancing the price of military equipment and victuals in the City. Witness the King at Westminster, 5 July, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation for all knights, esquires, &c., going with the Duke of Gloucester, Captain of Calais, to succour and defend that town, to muster at Sand-

[1] *Petilio.* In nonnullis ch. Anglicis jaculorum seu sagittarum species (Maigne D'Arnis). Cf. *supra*, p. 95, where *flecches*, *settes*, and *petils* are made subject to the survey of the Flecchers or Arrow-makers.

[2] On the day after the date of this writ (Sunday, 22 July) the King "helde his counsell in Caunterbury with his lordis." Kingsford, 'Chron.,' p. 141.

wich by Thursday next [26 July].[1] Witness the King at Westminster, 23 July, 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Friday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], in the presence of Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, Alexander Anne the Recorder, John Michell, John Reynewell, William Estefeld, John Gedney, John Brokle, Stephen Browne, Robert Large, Thomas Wandesford, Thomas Bernewell, John Atherle, Thomas Chaltone, Thomas Catteworth, John Olney, William Gregory, Aldermen, and very many Commoners, summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Thomas Morstede,[2] of the Fraternity of the Mistery of Fishmongers, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the said Mayor, and William Gregory[3] was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty. Fo. 162 b.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain; William Wetnale, grocer, and Thomas Badby, fishmonger, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and Thomas Bernewell and John Olney, Aldermen, Hugh Wyche, John Heust, John Wythiale, and Clement Lyffyn, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Saturday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], in the presence of Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, Alexander Anne the Recorder, ...[*the record not further entered*].

Writ to the Sheriffs to bring up into the King's Chancery Richard "Gun" (?), a prisoner, together with the cause of his imprisonment. Witness the King at Westminster, 21 Nov., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

[1] He appears to have set sail the next day with a large force, but the town of Calais had already been relieved by Edmund Beaufort, Count of Mortain, afterwards created Earl of Dorset. Kingsford's 'Chron.,' p. 142.

[2] *Vide supra*, p. 11, note 3.

[3] The reputed author of the 'Historical Collections of a Citizen of London in the XVth Cent.,' referred to in these Calendars as 'Gregory's Chronicle.'

Fo. 163. Return made to the above writ by John Michell, the Mayor, Thomas Morstede and William Gregory, the Sheriffs, setting forth the custom of the City touching orphanage, and how the day before the arrival of the writ the said Richard "Goun," an apprentice of Richard Kerby, draper, had been committed to prison for running away with and marrying Alice, daughter of Simon Herward, late mercer, who was apprenticed to Elizabeth Nevyle, widow, a "sylkewoman," and guardian of the said Alice. They will bring him up, however, as directed by the writ.

Fo. 163 b. *Elias Davy civis et mercerus London'.* Writ to the Mayor and Aldermen to return particulars of an alleged debt of £30 sued for in the King's Court in the City by John Burton of the City of Norwich against Elias Davy, mercer of London, to the intent that the said Elias might be prevented from prosecuting an action in the King's Bench at Westminster against William Clerk, skinner, for the recovery of a debt of £20. Witness J[ohn] Juyn at Westminster, 3 Nov., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Return made to the above by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, to the effect that by the law merchant and the ancient liberties and customs of the City the Mayor and Aldermen, from time immemorial, had exercised jurisdiction over mercantile disputes arising between merchants of the City; that Elias Davy, mentioned in the writ, was for many years and is a merchant and citizen of London, and was warned by order of Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to appear before them in the Chamber of the Guildhall, on the 1st Sept. last, to answer John Burton, merchant, touching a debt of £30 on a bill of exchange between the said John Burton and John Audeley, the factor and attorney of Elias aforesaid, executed at the town of Bruges and not yet paid, as the said John Burton complained by bill before the said Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen on the 11th August last. There is no other cause against the said Elias before them.

Writ to the Mayor and Aldermen acknowledging the above return, and remitting the above suit to them to be tried according to the law merchant and the custom of the City.

Witness J[ohn] Juyn at Westminster, 23 Nov., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

6 Nov., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], the sum of £20 bequeathed by Robert Holond, late "sherman," to Agnes, Thomas, and William, children of Thomas Couper, "dyer," committed by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to the said Thomas Couper for a term of ten years. Sureties, viz., Almaric Matany, draper, William "Fyge," tailor, John Tyndale and William Waleys, fishmongers. Fo. 164.

Custodia liberor' Thome Couper dyer cum xx li.

Wednesday, 4 Oct., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], the above William "Figge" was discharged as surety by Robert Large, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain. The same day John Staundon, draper, became surety.

10 Nov., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], the guardianship of John, Margaret, Michael, Robert, and Elizabeth, children of Michael Randolffe, late haberdasher, together with their patrimony, committed by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Ralph Blaklowe, "Gentylman." Sureties, viz., Nicholas Wyffold, grocer, Richard Lovelace, mercer, and Robert Bylingey, "hurer."

Custodia pueror' Michaelis Randolff cum c marcis.

9 July, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], the above Ralph Blaklowe came before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and delivered to John Chichele, the Chamberlain, the amount of patrimony due to Michael, son of the above Michael Randolffe, which was committed to Antony Astell, fishmonger, as recorded *infra*, fo. 211[b]. The above sureties are, therefore, so far discharged.

20 Nov., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], John Bergon, "talghchaundeler," discharged by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 164 b.

27 Nov., the same year, came John Weston, "gentilman," who married Agnes, daughter of William Marwe, late smith (*faber*), and acknowledged that he had received from John Chichele, the Chamberlain, his wife's patrimony.

7 Dec., the same year, John Stalkenden, goldsmith, discharged

by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

29 Jan., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436–7], came Roger Russell, "purser," before John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the art of "purser" *temp.* John Welles, Mayor, and John Bederenden, Chamberlain, viz., on the 19th August, anno 10 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of "glover," and not the art of "purser." He prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted into the freedom in the said art of "glover." His prayer granted at the instance of Masters and good men of the Art of "Glover," viz., John Payn, Walter Fairford, Edmund Hoddesdone, Thomas Holme, Robert Bone, Ralph Brangthaich (?),[1] and others [not named].

7 Feb., the same year, John Corby, goldsmith, discharged by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

6 April, 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], William Shene, "botil-maker," similarly discharged on account of deafness, &c.

Fo. 165. Grant by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, under the Common Seal, that their beloved Secretary, John Carpenter, shall thenceforth not be forced to serve on any watches, assizes, juries, &c., nor be charged with any burden or office other than that he now exercises. Dated 14 Dec., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436].

Exoneracio Will'i Moore ab assisis juratis etc. 20 April, 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], William Moore, "powchemaker," discharged by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exoneracio Joh'is Thorpe ab assisis. 25 April, 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], John Thorpe, cook, similarly discharged for like cause.

Exoneracio Will'i Moltone ab assisis. 7 May, 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], William Moltone, cutler, similarly discharged for like cause.

31 May, 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], Richard, son of Richard

[1] "Brømthwayt," *infra*, p. 222.

Justice, of Aghton, co. Middlesex, apprentice of Simon Clerk, "forbour,"[1] similarly discharged for like cause.

27 Nov., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], came John Abbey, grocer, executor of Richard Crawley, late grocer, before John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and received a general acquittance in respect of his executorship from John Symond and Katherine his wife, widow and executrix of the said Richard Crawley, the said John Abbey granting a similar acquittance and indemnity to the said John Symond and Katherine. Fo. 165 b.

The same day came John Bardolff, "shipwright," and Peter Pope, "barbour," and entered into bond on behalf of the above John Abbey.

Indenture witnessing that Henry Frowyk and Thomas Catteworth, Aldermen, John Carpenter, *junior*,[2] and Nicholas Yoo, Commoners, citizens elected to represent the City in the Parliament held at Westminster the 21st Jan., anno 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436–7], had nominated the four persons underwritten to levy and receive the subsidy in the City granted by the same Parliament, viz., Thomas Bernewell and John Atherle, Aldermen, William Deer, "peautrer," and John Wottone, draper, Commoners. [Noda te.]

Friday, 8 Dec., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], came John Wokkyng and William Morys, executors of John SeyntJohn, before the Mayor and Aldermen, and delivered to John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in bullion and plate (*in massa et plata*), the sum of £106 to the use of Thomas, son of the said John SeyntJohn.

The same day came William Scarbourgh and John Wotton, and entered into bond for the above executors to render account of the said orphan's estate before Robert Large,

[1] Furbisher.

[2] In the case of the election of City members for the Parliament of 1437, recorded *twice* in Journal 3 (fos. 1 and 129 b), John Carpenter (Common Clerk of the City) is once termed "junior." He so styles himself in his will dated 8 March, 1441-2, where he mentions a brother of the same name as himself. See Brewer's 'Life of Carpenter,' pp. 4, 131, 137.

Robert Clopton, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, Auditors appointed for the purpose by the Court.

Fo. 166. Precept to the Aldermen that they cause a sum equal to a fourth part of a fifteenth to be levied in their respective Wards, and bring the money to the Guildhall by the 15th May next. Dated 1 May [*s.a.*].

Thursday, 13 May, 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], Robert Large and Robert Cloptone appointed by John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to audit the accounts of John Wokkyng, William Morys, and John Paslewe, executors of John Seynt-John.

The same day came John Wotton, William Scarbourgh, John Marchaunt, and Henry Merssh, and became sureties for the above executors, under a penalty of £200.

[*A marginal note to the effect that the ordinance touching foreign bakers recorded supra, p. 45, should have been entered here.*]

12 Dec., 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], the guardianship of Johanna and Agnes, daughters of John Admond, late mercer, together with their patrimony, committed by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to John Asshe, mercer. Sureties, viz., John Sturgeon and William Irwilliam, mercers, William Stephen and John Sperham, "hatters."

9 May, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], came John, son of Simon Herward, late mercer, before John Pattesley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged that he had received from John Talbot, John Notebroun, and John Asshe, mercers and executors of John Admond, late mercer, a sum of money, part being his patrimony and part money which accrued to him on the death of Alice and Margaret his sisters; also that he had received a piece of silver of the value of 42*s*. The said executors as well as the sureties of the said John Admond, viz., Eborard Flete, John Pidmell, John Fantleroy, and William Prentis, are therefore discharged.

Fo. 166 b. *Custodia Rob'ti lib'i Joh'is Saykyn.* 11 June, 15 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], the guardianship of Robert, son of John Saykyn, late draper, together with his patrimony and divers pieces of plate, committed by John

Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to John Brokley, draper and Alderman, and one of the executors of the said John Saykyn. Sureties, viz., Walter Chertsey, Robert Cottone, William Edy, and William Norhampton, drapers.

7 Sept., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], came John Flete, "hurer," before John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Capperes" *temp.* Robert Ottele, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 30th May, anno 13 Henry VI. [A.D. 1435], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of Haberdashers, and not the art of "hurer." He therefore prayed to be admitted into the freedom in the Art of Haberdasher. His prayer granted at the instance of good men [not named] of that Mistery or Art.

Letter from John Michell, the Mayor, to the Rector and Churchwardens of the Church of St. Botolph without Aldgate, presenting Walter Gartone, chaplain, of the diocese of York, for admission to the chantry founded in the said church by John Romeney, potter, vacant by the death of Sir Roger Gubbe.[1] Dated 27 Sept., A.D. 1437.

Fo. 167.

Custodia Kat'ine fil' Ric'i Crawley.

5 Sept., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], the guardianship of Katherine, daughter of Richard Crawley, late grocer, together with her patrimony, committed by John Michell, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to John Symond, draper. Sureties, viz., Robert Cristemasse, draper, Nicholas Blome, "taillour," and William Norhamptone, draper.

10 July, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], came the above Robert Cristemasse before Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and delivered the orphan's patrimony to John Chichele, the Chamberlain. The above guardian and his sureties are therefore quit.

20 Sept., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], came Thomas White,

[1] Admitted to the chantry in 1430. *Supra*, p. 111.

"corsour,"[1] and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "corsour" *temp.* Robert Chichele, Mayor, and John Bederenden, Chamberlain, viz., on the 13th August, anno 10 Henry V. [A.D. 1422], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of brewer, and not the art of "corsour." He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the said Art of Brewer. His prayer granted at the instance of good men [not named] of the Mistery or Art of Brewer.

The same day came William Parker, smith (*faber*), before the same, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Smith *temp.* William Waldern, Mayor, and John Bederenden, Chamberlain, viz., on the 21st Sept., 2 Henry VI. [A.D. 1423], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of tailor, and not the art of smith. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the Art of Tailors. His prayer granted at the instance of good men [not named] of the Mistery or Art of Tailors.

Fo. 167 b. Saturday the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], William Stork, one of the Serjeants of the Mayor, admitted one of the Serjeants of the Chamber in the place of Richard Davy, resigned on account of old age, but continuing to receive annually the sum of 13*s.* 4*d.* out of the profits of the office.

21 Oct., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], came David Gryffyn, "fuystour,"[2] before John Michell, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "fuystour" *temp.* John Michell, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 22nd [*blank*], anno 15 Henry VI., he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of "carpenters," and not the art of "fuystours." He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the Art or Mistery of "Carpenters." His prayer

[1] Horse dealer.

[2] For ordinances of the "Fuystours," *vide supra*, p. 37.

granted at the instance of Masters and good men [not named] of that Art.

3 Dec., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], Robert Shedd, brewer, discharged by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 168.

19 March, 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437-8], Edmund Stodeley, "botelmaker," similarly discharged for like cause.

Wardmote Precept or "Warant."

"We charge & comaund you þ^t als sone as ye may goodly after þe sight of þis Warant ye do hold your Wardemote and þ^t ye have afore us at our gen'al courte to be hold in þe Gildhalle þe monday after þe fest of Thepiphanie next suyng all þe defaultes þ^t shall be p'sented afore you be enquest in þe said Wardemote & þe names of all theym of all your Ward þ^t come note to your said Wardemote yef þey be duly warned to þ^t end þ^t we mowe do purvey & ordeigne due redresse & punysshement of theym as the caas requireth Seth also and ordeigneth þat duringe þe solempne Fest of Cristemasse next comynge covenable watch be kept & lant'nes light be nyght'tale in þe manere accustumed And þ^t no man go be nyght'tale without light nor viserd on þe perill þ^t longeth therto Purveyeth furthermore be þadvice of þe worthiest men of all your Ward .....[1] of þe most sufficiant men of good & wysest discrec'on to be for þe said Ward of þe Co'e Counseill of þis Citee for þe yeer next suynge & certeyn other honest persones to be your Counstables & Scavageours & a co'e Bedell Doth chese eke in þe said Wardemote a Rakier to make clene þe stretes & lanes of your said Ward And We wyll & graunte be þis present warant þ^t þe said Counstables shull have full power & auctorite to distreigne for þe salarie & quart'age of þ^e said Bedell & Rakyer as ofte as it is behynd unpayed Wryten at London under þe seale of þoffice of our Mairalte þe x^th day of Decembre þe yeer of þe reigne of Kynge Harry þe vj^te after þe conquest the xvj^th" [A.D. 1437]. *Consi'lis billa missa fuit cuilibet Aldr'o.*

[1] Here the number to be elected, according to the size and importance of the Ward, would be inserted in each "Precept."

Fo. 168 b. 12 Dec., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], William Crane, "flecchcr," discharged by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Letters patent discharging the King's servitor, Richard Baret, from serving on juries, &c., or acting as collector or assessor of subsidies, or as Constable, or any office under the King or his heirs. Witness the King in his City of London, 18 Nov., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437].

By the Kyng.

"To oure right trusty and welbelovyd William Estfeld Mair of our Citee of London Ryght trusty and welbelovid we grete you well And of youre goode diligence and trewe acquitaille that ye have sheued un to the ij shippes longing to the lord Camfere[1] that now late were distressed and hyndryd in our courte of Admiralte we thank you hartly prayng you that ye wille to contynue youre good frendship and faveur withoute suffring them as fer as in you is to take hyndryng or prejudice either in vesselx personnes or goodis otherwise thann trowthe & good conscience requiren in that behalf as we trust you And oure lorde have you in his kepynge Yeven under oure signet at oure maner of Esthampstede the xxvij day of Juille" [A.D. 1438].

Fo. 169. Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to bring up Richard Peryn and Margaret his wife before the King in his Chancery and the cause of their detention in prison. Witness the King at Westminster, 5 March, 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437-8].

Return made to the above by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and William Hales and William Chapman, the Sheriffs, that the said Richard Peryn and Margaret his wife had been committed to prison for having enticed Isabella Potenam, a maiden, from the service of Thomas Harlowe, and carried her to their house in the parish of All Hallows Berkyng, and caused her to be debauched by George Galiman and others

[1] In 1496 an "Erle of Camfere," otherwise called "lord Bevir" (presumably Philip, Seigneur de Beures), came over to London as Burgundian ambassador and was lodged in Crosby Place. See Kingsford's 'Chronicles,' pp. 208, 325.

against her will, and for generally keeping a disorderly house, and that they were being detained until they found surety for good behaviour, according to the ancient custom of the City. They further say that inquiry was being made into the matter, but they will bring up the bodies of the said Richard and Margaret as commanded in the writ. Fo. 169 b.

12 Aug., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], Richard Batell, cutler, discharged from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Proclamation to be made forbidding "hokkyng." [No date.]

Precept for Midsummer watch, &c. Dated 12 June, 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438].

[The rest of the folio *blank*.]

Writ of certiorari to the Sheriffs touching the arrest and detention of certain goods and chattels belonging to Robert Clidrowe. [No date.] Fo. 170.

Return made to the above by William Hales and William Chapman, the Sheriffs, to the effect that the above goods had been seized by way of withernam (*per viam namii*),[1] according to the ancient custom of the City, inasmuch as the said Robert "Clidrowe" and Richard Cokke, burgesses of the town of Calais, exercising the offices of customers and water-bailiffs, had unlawfully exacted prise and custom from Thomas Treynell, Thomas Cok, and John Stoktone, mercers of London, and had refused restitution. They further say that the said goods had been seized in the possession of William Makarell, a citizen of London, at the suit of the said Thomas Cok in a plea debt upon demand (*super dd'*) of £200 against the said Robert "Cliderowe" held before the said William Chapman on the 14th June, anno 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438].[2]

Writ of certiorari to the Mayor and Sheriffs touching the arrest of a ship called "Seint Spiright," of Bayonne. Witness the King at Dogmersfeld,[3] 23 July, 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438]. Fo. 170 b.

[1] So called from two Anglo-Saxon words signifying a seizure on the other hand, *i.e.*, by way of reprisal. It is a seizure of *other* goods by the Sheriff in lieu of those unjustly removed. See 'Cal. of Letters 1350-70' (printed by order of the Corporation), p. 24; 'Liber Albus,' i. 188-9.

[2] Set out by Delpit, pp. 254-5.

[3] Dogmersfield, co. Hants.

Return made to the above by William Hales and William Chapman, the Sheriffs, that they had seized the said ship by way of withernam, according to the ancient custom of the City, in retaliation for toll unjustly exacted by the Mayor, Jurats, &c., of Bayonne, on merchandise belonging to Stephen Foster, Robert Horne, William Beaufitz, and William Kerver, citizens of London, who had brought an action for debt before William Chapman, Sheriff, on the 15th July, against John de Peyruk, master of the said ship, Michael de Berada, merchant of Bayonne, Michael de Bertelyne, and Antony de Mundache, of the same place.[1]

Fo. 171. Saturday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], in the presence of John Michell, the Mayor, Alexander Anne the Recorder, William Estfeld, John Gedney, John Brokle, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broun, John Paddesley, William Melreth, Thomas Chaltone, John Atherle, Robert Cloptone, William Gregory, and John Olney, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, William Hales, mercer, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and William Chapman, draper, elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain for the year ensuing; William Wetenhale, grocer, and Thomas Badby, fishmonger, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and John Olney, Robert Clopton, Aldermen, John Withiale, Clement Lyffyn, Simon Eyr, and Robert Horne, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 171 b. Sunday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], in the presence of John Wodecok, the Mayor, Alexander Anne the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch,

[1] Set out by Delpit, *op. cit.*, pp. 256-7.

Eleccio Will'mi Estefeld in Maiorem.

John Gedney, William Estfeld, John Brokley, Henry Frowyk, Thomas Wandesford, Stephen Broun, John Paddesley, Robert Large, William Melreth, John Atherley, Thomas Chaltone, Ralph Holand, Robert Cloptone, Thomas Catteworth, William Gregory, John Olney, John Sutton, and Nicholas Yoo, Aldermen, William Hales, one of the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, William Estfeld was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Exon'acio Joh'is Rithe.

9 Oct., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], John atte Rythe, "malemaker," discharged by William Estfeld, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Sunday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], in the presence of William Estfeld, the Mayor, Alexander Anne the Recorder, John Gedney, John Wellys, Henry Frowyk, Thomas Wandesford, Robert Large, Ralph Holand, Robert Cloptone, William Melreth, John Olney, John Sutton, William Gregory, William Combes, and John Wetenhale, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Hugh Dyke was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Nicholas Yoo, draper, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain for the year ensuing; Thomas Badby, fishmonger, and Richard Lovelas, mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; Robert Cloptone and William Combes, Aldermen, Simon Eyr, draper, Robert Horn, John Norman, and John Sturgeon, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 172. *Ordinacio de hurers.*

20 Nov., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437], petition by good men of the Mistery of Hurers praying the Mayor and Aldermen to enforce the ordinance recorded in Letter-Book H, fo. xlix [b],[1] forbidding the fulling of "hures" and "cappes" at mills, "for grete harme as well of suche hures and cappes so fulled as to other fyne clothes that were fulled with them," and to ordain that thenceforth no one presume to "fulle suche hures ne cappes at milles but only by myght and strenght of man and that is with honde and fote." Their prayer granted.

Fo. 172 b. *Eleccio Steph'i Broun Maioris.*

Monday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], in the presence of William Estfeld, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, John Gedney, John Wellys, John Brokley, Henry Frowyk, Thomas Wandesford, John Paddesley, Stephen Broun, Robert Large, Thomas Chalton, William Melreth, John Olney, Ralph Holand, John Sutton, Nicholas Yoo, William Combes, and John Wetenhale [Aldermen], Hugh Dyke, one of the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Stephen Broun was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

De Zonariis.

23 Feb., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438-9], ordinance by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, pursuant to the custom of the City, that men of the Mistery of Girdlers shall be discharged of payment of fifteenths on their Common Hall, situate within the Ward of Bassyngeshawe, chiefly because they warehouse no merchandise or movable goods there.

Ordin' Carnificum.

Ordinances of the Butchers, approved by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, on Wednesday, the 11th March, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438-9], to continue in force for one year:—

"Were as persons of the seid Craft be for this tyme have used to ryde and go un to diverse feyres & markettes of Bestaille holden aswell w^t^ynne the Shire of Essex as in other

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 47-8.

diverse Shires w^t^ynne the Reme of Yngland and there have bought here Bestaille perteynyng to the seid craft atte secunde thridde and fourth hande wherby the vitaille so bought hath growen to excessif pris to grete costage and hyndryng of the seid besechers and gen'ally to grevouse hurt of the peple of the forsaid Citee Hit is ordeynd that no persone enfraunchised of þe seid craft in the Citee aboveseid from hens foreward bye nomaner Bestaille at eny such feires or markettes in Essex of eny drovers forstallers upon peyne of xl*s.* that on half to remayn in the Chambre of Gildehall and that other half to be turned to the co'e Box of the seid craft be the deliveraunce of the Chamb'layn And that no personne enfraunchised of the seid craft w^t^ynne the seid Citee from this tyme foreward bye enye Bestaille to the seid craft perteynynge of eny Drovere or Bocher regrator in eny othir place or stede than oonly in the market of Smythfeld at the two market dayes that is to wete Wedesne- ϒ day & Friday wekely as hit hath of olde tyme ben used and accustumed & nat be for viii of the clokke in peyne of xl*s.* to be payed in forme aboveseid nor no such Bestaille atte seid market dayes unto Smythfeld comynge or brought chepe nor bye in no wise Also that no persone Bocher foreyn dwellyng w^t^oute þe fraunchise of the seid citee by nomaner Bestaille of eny persone comynge with Bestes to the seid Market in Smythfeld be for the hour of x of clokke a fore none for which ordinaunce so be + the seyd foreyns to be observed and kept hit is provydid be your discrec'ons and ordeyned that the Wardens of þe craft afore seid mow have sufficiaunt power to for bede such biers of Bestaille & to present hem to the Mair that will nat sele atte here prohibuc'on to be punyssid be his discrecioun."

De magna statera.

19 Nov., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], the custody of the Great Common Beam[1] committed by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty in Common Council assembled to Simon Strete, grocer, an expert in that office, to hold the same during good behaviour.

[1] The Common or King's beam for weighing articles in gross, and, therefore, appropriately committed to the custody of a "grocer." Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' pp. 296-7.

Names of Masters of divers Misteries sworn anno 17 Henry VI.

Fo. 173. *Glovers:* Ralph Bramthwayt, Thomas Caller, sworn 11 Sept. [A.D. 1438].

Writers of Court letter: William Brampton, Thomas Clerk, sworn 16 Sept.

Girdlers: Richard Colton, Henry Otwere, William Lyly, Thomas Crosby, sworn 18 Sept.

Tapicers: Ralph Spayn, John Bonantre, Robert Spayn, sworn 8 Oct.

Armurers: William Parker, Laurence Herd, sworn 11 Oct.

Shethers: John Richemond, Henry Gateley, sworn 12 Oct.

Surgeons: John Corby, John Forde, William Wellys, John Cosyn, sworn 12 Oct.

Foundours: John Russell, Robert Reynold, sworn 17 Oct.

Peautrers: Richard Lumley, William Baker, John Andrew, sworn 18 Oct.

Glasiers: John Greylond, Robert Whitehed, sworn 21 Oct.

Flecchers: John Large, Henry Hogges, sworn 25 Oct.

Blaksmythis: John Nycholl, John Toky, William More, sworn 3 Nov.

Pouchemakers: William More, Thomas Cok, John Batte, Robert Sabbe, sworn 4 Nov.

Coryours: Thomas Carter, William Whitbarn, sworn 6 Nov.

Wexchaundelers: Roger Wyllys, William Underhill, sworn 6 Nov.

Hurers: John Halman, John Weston, John Screveyn', sworn 20 Nov.

Skynners: John Scarburgh, Nicholas Toller, John Creke, William Gregory, junior, sworn 2 Dec.

Salters: John Bacheler, William Frensh, sworn 15 Dec.

Horners: Richard Harpley, William Brouderer, sworn 15 Dec.

Cokes and *Pastelers:* John Stokwell, Ralph Chapman, John Bekke, Henry Nour', sworn 20 Dec.

Fo. 173 b. 11 Nov., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], the guardianship of Elianora, daughter of William Waldern, late mercer, together with her patrimony, committed by Stephen Broun, the Mayor,

Custod' Elianor' filie Will'i Waldern una cum clxj li.

the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Thomas Morestede, Citizen and Surgeon.[1] Sureties, viz., Richard Hill, "foundour," Alexander Orable, and Robert Arnwey. The orphan's former guardians, viz., John Roys, of co. Norfolk, "gentilman," and Margaret his wife, and their sureties, viz., Robert Ottele, William Burton, Thomas Catteworth, grocers, and John Paddesle, goldsmith,[2] were thereupon discharged.

Afterwards, viz., on the 15th Jan., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], came Richard de la Feld, who married the above orphan, before Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his wife's property.

Custodia Joh'is et Will'i fil' Joh'is Knight.

12 Nov., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], the guardianship of John and William, sons of John Knyght, late draper, committed by the same, together with the sum of 215 marks, the patrimony of the said orphans, to Henry Hale, grocer, who married Margaret, their mother. Sureties, viz., Hugh Wiche, mercer, Matthew Phelipp, goldsmith, and Thomas Talbroke, "hosteler."

Wednesday, 1 July, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], came the above Henry Hale, and, with the assent of the Mayor and Aldermen, placed the above orphan, William Knyght, as apprentice to Richard Thornbury, draper.

Fo. 174.

20 May, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], came Robert Horn and John de Vache, fishmongers, Hugh Dene, vintner, and Andrew Colson, "wolpakker," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall before Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, for the repayment of the sum of £100 to the Chamberlain by Thomas, son of John SeyntJohn, late "lyngearmorer."

19 Nov., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], came good men of the Mistery of Peautrers before Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged that they had made certain ordinances among themselves without the authority of the Mayor and Aldermen. These were, therefore, formally annulled by the Mayor and Aldermen on the 26th Feb.

[1] *Vide supra*, p. 11, note.

[2] *Vide supra*, pp. 47, 59.

[A.D. 1438-9], and on the 20th March the Wardens of the said Mistery prayed the Mayor and Aldermen to approve certain other ordinances[1] as set out. Their prayer granted.

Translacio. 11 April, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], came William, son of Hugh Benet, of Walsyngham, co. Norf., who was apprentice of John Bate, tailor, before Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Taillours" *temp.* William Estfeld, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 11th Feb., 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1437–8], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of Drapers, and not the art of Tailors. He prayed, therefore, that he might be admitted into the freedom in the Art or Mistery of Drapers. His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Mistery, viz., John Lynge, John William, John Whitehode, Robert Shirbourne, Thomas Hardyng, John Parker, John Gladewyn, and others [not named].

Custod' Alicie filie Rob'ti Covyntre una cum centum libris. 17 April, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], the guardianship of Alice, daughter of Robert Coventre, late mercer, committed by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, together with her patrimony of £100, to Robert Shirborne, draper. Sureties, viz., John Stokker, draper, John Bartelot, "netter," John Parker, brewer, and William Paxman, "iremonger."

20 April, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], the guardianship of William, son of Laurence Draytone, late girdler, together with his patrimony, committed by the same to John Crowe, girdler. Sureties, viz., William Taverner and Richard Coltone, girdlers, William Stevens, mercer, and John Olyver, "leþ'seller."

Fo. 175. *Carta pannar'.* Letters patent granting to the men of the Mistery of Drapers within the City licence to found a Guild or Fraternity in honour

[1] The ordinances which follow will be found printed in Welch's 'Hist. of the Pewterers' Company' (pp. 9-11) from the Company's old Jury Book, with the exception of the last ordinance, to the effect that no one of the craft shall let to hire "feste" vessels for more than 6*d.* the dozen garnished, under penalty of 6*d.* the dozen so let to hire within the City, but they were free to hire such vessels outside the City.

of the Blessed Virgin Mary from men of the said Mistery and others, and to maintain and enjoy the said Guild or Fraternity so established to them and their successors in perpetuity, and to increase and augment the said Guild or Fraternity whensoever it shall appear necessary; and, further, granting that the men of the said Guild or Fraternity may each year elect from among themselves a Master and four Wardens, who at the time of their election shall be Drapers and freemen of the City, to undertake the business both of the said Mistery and of the said Guild and Fraternity, and govern the same; and that the said Master, Wardens, brethren, and sisters of the said Guild or Fraternity be in fact and name one body and one perpetual Commonalty, having perpetual succession and a common seal, &c.[1] Witness the King at "Warrewyk," 30 Nov., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438].

By writ of Privy Seal and for £40 paid in the hanaper (*in hanaperio*).[2]

Carta piscenar'.

Letters patent, with the advice of the King's Council, granting to his liege men of the Mistery of Fishmongers and all others of the said Mistery, freemen of the City, that they be in fact and name one body and perpetual Commonalty, and that the said Commonalty may each year elect from among themselves six Wardens to govern the said Mistery, and that the said Wardens and Commonalty may hold lands, tenements, &c., in the City and borough of Southwark, to the annual value of £20, &c.[3] Witness the King at Westminster, 8 Feb., 11 Henry VI. [A.D. 1432-3].

By writ of Privy Seal and for £60 paid in the hanaper.

Fo. 175 b.

Carta de Mercer'.

Letters patent confirming grant made 13 Jan., 17 Richard II. [A.D. 1393-4], to men of the Mistery of Mercery of the City to be thenceforth a perpetual Commonalty of themselves, and that

[1] Set out in Herbert, 'Twelve Great Livery Companies,' i. 482-3. The reason why this and the charters of other livery companies which follow are here recorded, was doubtless owing to the statute of 1437, requiring all bodies corporate to bring in their charters for the purpose of registration by the chief governors of cities, boroughs, and towns. 'Rot. Parl.,' iv. 507; 'Stat. at Large,' i. 585.

[2] An office in the Court of Chancery.

[3] See Herbert, *op. cit.*, ii. 116-17.

the said Commonalty may each year elect four Wardens out of the men of the said Commonalty and Mistery to govern the same, as in the said grant more fully is contained; and further granting, at the humble request of John Coventre, John Carpenter, and William Grove, executors of Richard Whityngtone, late mercer, that the said Wardens and Commonalty and their successors may have a common seal, &c. Witness the King at Westminster, 14 Feb., 3 Henry VI. [A.D. 1424-5].[1]

By writ of Privy Seal and for 20*s.* paid in the hanaper.

Carta de Grocer'. Letters patent with the advice of the King's Council, granting to the free men of the Mistery of Grocery that the said Mistery and all the men thereof should thenceforth be one body and perpetual Commonalty; and that the said Commonalty may each year elect from itself three Wardens to rule the Mistery. Further, that the said Wardens and Commonalty shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, and may acquire lands, tenements, &c., held under the King, to the yearly value of 20 marks for the maintenance of their poor and a chantry for the King's welfare, provided it be found by inquisition that such a grant is without hurt or prejudice. Witness the King at Westminster, 16 Feb., 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428-9].[2]

By writ of Privy Seal and for £50 paid in the hanaper.

Carta Cultellarior'. Letters patent granting to the men of the Mistery of Cutlers of the City who had come to poverty and want, and desired some establishment (*aliquam certitudinem*) for their relief,[3] that thenceforth they be a perpetual Commonalty, and may elect Richard Wellom Master of the Commonalty and Mistery aforesaid, and Martin Godard and John Chedde Wardens of the same for one year, and may continue to elect each year one Master and two Wardens to govern the said Mistery and Commonalty. Further, that the said Master and Wardens and Commonalty may acquire lands, tenements, &c., in the City and suburbs of the yearly value of £20 for the maintenance of the poor of the Mistery, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding.

[1] Herbert, i. 294-5.

[2] *Id.* i. 366-7.

[3] The charter of Richard II. to the Mercers had been granted for similar reason.

Witness the King at Westminster, 4 Dec., 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1425].

20 April, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], the guardianship of Robert, son of Laurence Draytone, late girdler, committed by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to John Byrom. Sureties, viz., William Petevyle, "brewer," Hugh Riche, "wexchaundeller," William atte Welle, "peautrer," and Richard Newman, "brwer." Fo. 176.

The same day the guardianship of Martin and Anne, children of the above Laurence Draytone, together with their patrimony, was similarly committed to William Brampton, scrivener. Sureties, viz., Thomas Onhand, mercer, John Maldone, grocer, Christopher Wartir, skinner, and Roger Haysand, draper.

2 June, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], came Richard Sale before Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and was admitted one of the cornmeters and sworn.

Licencia ad prosequend' civem ad ex'.

The same day came Thomas Osberne, mercer, Richard Lyndesey, writer of court-letter, and William Tounland, mercer, and asked leave of the Mayor to prosecute outside the City, and in any Court, John Clerk, late citizen and grocer, for that he was now beyond the franchise of the City, and had nothing within the City whereby to give satisfaction. Leave granted.

Friday, 22 May, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], in the presence of the Mayor and Aldermen, the office of assayer of oysters and mussels at Billyngisgate and Quenhithe granted by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, to John Lede for life.

Fo. 176 b.

De coriis vendendis in selda.

Ordinance by the Mayor and Aldermen that thenceforth tanners bringing leather to the City for sale shall bring it "to þ^e^ selde which is ordeynyd þ'fore on the Northside of the Gildehalle ther to be sold serchid and assaid and nowher ellys," under penalty of forfeiture. [No date.[1]]

Ordinaciones de Peuterers.

Ordinance prescribing the standard of weight for divers articles made by Peautrers.[2]

[1] This is, no doubt, the ordinance referred to *infra* (fo. 213 b) as having been made *temp.* Stephen Broun, Mayor, anno 17 Henry VI.

[2] The schedule of weights which follows has been printed in Welch's 'History of the Pewterers' Company' (pp. 11-12) from the Company's Jury

Fo. 177. 7 Aug., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], ordinance by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and Aldermen, at the instance of good men of the Mistery of Brouderers, that owing to the paucity of good men in the said Mistery the same Warden may thenceforth continue in office two years in succession, any former ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding.

Exon'acio Will'i Wiltshire ab assisis. 20 Aug., 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], William Wyltshire, horner, discharged by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Letter from Pope Eugenius to the Archbishop of Canterbury touching the recent efforts made by the Pope to promote unity between the Eastern and Western Churches. Dated at Florence, Nones July [7 July], A.D. 1439.[1]

Fo. 177 b. 9 Sept., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], Robert Marcheford, "pasteler," discharged by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, according to the ancient custom of the City, from serving on juries, &c., in recognition of his long and faithful service to the City.

27 Oct., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], William Multon, late citizen and cutler, for many reasonable causes discharged and for ever dismissed by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, from the freedom of the City.

Q'd nemo vad' legem contra papirum sive membran' def' script' et sigillat'. Saturday, 21 March, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438-9], declaration made by Stephen "Browne," the Mayor, and the Aldermen assembled in the Court of the lord the King in the inner (*interiori*) Chamber of the Guildhall,[2] for the City's business,

Book. Among the items may be mentioned "the kardinall' hatte & sawcers," "Galey" or "Gally" dishes, "Florentyne" dishes and "sawcers."

[1] At a General Council recently held at Florence and attended by a large number of Greek clergy, as well as by John Palæologus, Emperor of the Romans, the Patriarch of Constantinople, and many others, a great step had been made towards a reconciliation by a public acceptance of certain articles of faith. This fact the Mayor caused to be proclaimed (at the Pope's request) at Paul's Cross on the 28th August. Gregory, 'Chron.,' p. 182.

[2] The Court here mentioned was possibly the Court of Aldermen, which is always represented as sitting in the *inner* Chamber of the Guildhall; although the fact that the Court is here styled "the Court of the lord the King" points to the Mayor's

that according to the ancient custom of the City a schedule of parchment or paper, written by the hand of a debtor or other person whatsoever, and sealed and delivered by the debtor himself, bars him from making his law in any court of the City.[1]

Fo. 178. *Custodia Elianore fil' Will'i Forster.*

11 Sept., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], the custody of Elianora, daughter of William Forster, late skinner, aged a quarter of a year at Michaelmas next, together with her patrimony of £60, committed by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to John Waldene, grocer. Sureties, viz., Richard Warbiltone, "iremonger," William Kirtone, mercer, and William Stafford, "vynter."

The above cancelled by order of the Mayor and Aldermen.

13 May, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], the guardianship of the above orphan, together with her patrimony of £422 17*s.* 4*d.*, similarly committed to John Waldene. Sureties, viz., Thomas Walsyngham, vintner, Hugh Dyke, Henry Purchas, and Thomas Gibbes, grocer.

Fo. 178 b. *Eleccio vicecom'.*

Monday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], in the presence of Stephen Broun, the Mayor, Thomas Cokayne the Recorder, John Gedney, John Wellis, Henry Frowyk, Thomas Wandesford, Robert Cloptone, John Hatherle, Ralph Holond, William Gregory, Nicholas Yeo, and Hugh Dyke, one of the Sheriffs, John Olney and John Wetenhale, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Robert Marchall, grocer, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Philip Malpas was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty for the year ensuing.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Badby, fishmonger, and Richard Lovelas,

Court, which sat "in the Chamber" or "in the *outer* Chamber" of the Guildhall. The word *interiori* has probably been inserted by mistake.

[1] Something similar to this is recorded in the City's 'Liber Albus' (Rolls Series, i. 214), viz.: *Item, un taille de dette enseale par usage de la citee est auxi fort come un obligacoun; et la ou pleynt de dette est fait, et tiel taille enseale soit mys avaunt en prove del dewete, le defendaunt navera my sa ley qil doit riens, nautre matier nientpluis qe encountre une obligacoun.*

mercer, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; William Combes, Nicholas Yeo, Aldermen, John Norman, John Sturgeon, Stephen Foster, and Geoffrey Feldyng, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

The same Monday [21 Sept.] the Commonalty of the City prayed the Mayor and Aldermen to appoint proctors to oppose the confirmation by the Bishop of London of the election of John Sevenoke, senior, as Prior of Holy Trinity, and thereby one of the Aldermen of the City, on account of his dissolute life.[1] Thereupon Richard Barnet, John Wylby, Richard Hadilsay, and John Lorde were appointed proctors to that end.

Fo. 179. "For asmoche as nowe of late dayes meny persons in this Cite be founde defoylid in the detestable synne [of ?] lecherie as in a voutrie fornicacion comynly hauntid and many diverse persones also ben comyn norischers promotours and provocours of the same synnys in displesance of almyghti God and a yens the lawys of this Cite goode custumys and usagys And forasmoche as the sharpnesse of punissement of old tyme ordeynyd in this Cite hath nat be execute long tyme in suche mysdoers wherthrowe a boldnesse is grown un to synne hit is considered and ordeynyd be the Mair & Aldremen be þe advys of þe Comyns þat frome þis day forward þe olde ordenaunce of punyssementes of suche mysdoers shall be

[1] Prior to the dissolution of religious houses, *temp.* Henry VIII., the Prior of Holy Trinity or Christ church, Aldgate, was *ex officio* Alderman of the Ward of Portsoken. This was due to the fact that the English Cnihtengild in the reign of Henry I. had made over to that church and its canons their soke and manorial iurisdiction. See Stow, 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 123; 'Calendar Letter-Book C,' Introd., pp. xxiii-xxv. According to Mr. Beaven ('Aldermen of the City of London,' p. 418), Sevenoke's election had already received the royal assent on the 10th June, and the temporalities were restored (28 Sept.) just one week after the citizens took action to have the election annulled.

uttirly execute and proclamyd to be kept in eschewyng of such mysdoers aboveseid in tyme comyng."[1] [No date.]

Fo. 179 b.

Electio Maioris.

Tuesday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], in the presence of Stephen Broun, the Mayor, the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch,[2] Nicholas Wottone, William Estfeld, Knt.,[3] John Gedney, John Welles, John Brokle, Henry Frowyk, Thomas Wandesford, John Pattesle, Robert Large, William Milreth, John Hatherle, Robert Cloptone, Ralph Holond, Thomas Chaltone, John Olney, William Gregory, Nicholas Yoo, John Suttone, William Wetenhale, Aldermen, Robert Marchall and Philip Malpas, Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor, Robert Large was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

6 Nov., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], came into the Court of the lord the King, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, John Lorchoun, John Broddesworth, John Wyvertone, and John Stystede, executors of Robert Chichele, late grocer, and brought the sum of £20, lately bequeathed by the said Robert for the mainten-

[1] Here follows the punishment prescribed for "peutours," "baudes," and "strompets," varying but slightly from that set out in 'Liber Albus' (i. 458-460) from Letter-Book H (fo. cxlvi b), and referred to here (in all probability) as "þe olde ordenaunce." Gregory helps us to the date, for he records that this year (1439) the Mayor ordained "that comyn women shulde were raye hoodys, and bawdys to the pelory. And thys was cryde the v day of Auguste the same yere, and so hyt was done at dyvers tymys" ('Chron.,' p. 182).

[2] His name not recorded; probably John Sevenoke.

[3] Estfeld, writes Mr. Beaven ('Aldermen of the City of London,' p. 256), "was probably knighted in 1439, but the commonly received account that he was made a Knight *of the Bath* during his Mayoralty in 1438-9 [1437-8?] seems to me to be more than doubtful." According to Nicolas ('Chron.,' p. 124) he and another were made Knights of the Bath in April, 1439. According to Gregory ('Chron.,' p. 182) he received a simple knighthood, with three others, on Whitsunday (24 May), 1439.

ance of London Bridge, and also a like sum for the maintenance of the work of the Guildhall.

Writ to the Sheriffs to cause four citizens to be elected to represent the City in a Parliament to be held at Westminster on Thursday the morrow of the Feast of St. Martin [11 Nov.]. Witness the King at Westminster, 26 Sept., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439].[1]

Fo. 180. *Names of Masters of divers Misteries sworn anno 17 Henry VI.*

Shermen: John Horold, William Spaldyng, William Gille, John Topcliff, sworn 17 July [A.D. 1439].

Copersmythes: Thomas Prince, John Asshe, sworn 18 July.

Copers: John Broun, William Downyng, sworn 18 July.

Lorymers: Richard Fuller, John Marchant, sworn 18 July.

Coryours: Thomas Carter, William Whitebarowe, sworn 18 July.

Browderers: John Cursone, John Balle, sworn 6 Aug.

Lynnenwevers: William Cokenage, Hugh Wigode, sworn 17 Aug.

Girdelers: William Grymysby, Thomas Herone, William Lyly, sworn 27 Aug.

Bladsmythes: John Chambre, William Hoberd, sworn 27 Aug.

Haburdasshers: Thomas Ostrich, Bartholomew Petham, John Spene, Walter Hersy, sworn 3 Sept., anno 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439].

Shethers: William Pays, John Clerk, sworn 18 Sept.

Tixtwrites: Richard Infeld, Richard Olwell, sworn 22 Sept.

[1] The Parliament met on the 12th Nov.; on the 21st Dec. it was prorogued to meet at Reading on the 14th Jan. The names of the members elected are not recorded in the Letter-Book, but from the City's Journal of the day we learn that at a Common Council held on Wednesday, the 21st Oct., William Estfeld, Knight and Alderman, and Robert Clopton, Alderman, were elected, whilst at another Common Council held two days later there were also elected Geoffrey Feldyng and John Carpenter, late Common Clerk of the City. It was also agreed by the Common Council of the 21st Oct. that Estfeld should receive double the allowance made to his fellow-members because his knighthood entailed additional expense (Journal 3, fo. 25 b). The chief result of this Parliament was the restriction imposed upon alien merchants. *Vide infra*, p. 238.

Indenture of licence granted by Richard [Harweden], the Abbot of the monastery of St. Peter, Westminster, and the prior and convent of the same, to Robert Large, the Mayor, and Commonalty of the City of London and their successors, to erect a fountain-head with fountains, vents (*augeis*), sesperals,[1] cisterns, &c., within a certain close called "Oxlese" in their manor of Padyngtone, co. Middlesex, and to conduct the water through pipes to the City[2] under any ground belonging to the said monastery except within its manor of Hide in the said county; provided always that a competent supply of water be left within the said close for the said Abbot and monastery and their tenants of the manor of Padyngtone, the grantees rendering to the said Abbot and monastery yearly on the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula [1 Aug.] 2 pounds of pepper. The grantors may recover possession and seize the said fountain-head and appurtenances if they find themselves thereby deprived of ancient water supplying the monastery from the manor of Hide. The grantees to make good any damage incurred by the said Abbot and monastery or their tenants in the manors of Padyngtone and Eybery whilst the conduits are repaired or renewed, &c. Dated 1 March, A.D. 1439[–40]. Fo. 180 b.

9 Oct., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], Robert, son of William Chirche, late hurer, who had been admitted into the freedom of the City before Robert Large, the Mayor, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the Art of Hurers, having long used the mistery or art of "Haburdasshers" and not the art of Hurers, prays the said Mayor and the Aldermen to be admitted to the freedom in the said Art or Mistery of "Haburdasshers." His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men [not named] of the said Art. Fo. 181.

9 Oct., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], Thomas, son of Thomas

[1] *Sesperalibus:* separate or divided enclosures.

[2] The civic authorities appear to have contented themselves with bringing the water from Paddington down to Tyburn and no further, and it was not until 1453 that steps were taken by the executors of Sir William Estfeld to continue the conduit down to Charing Cross. *Vide infra*, fo. 271; cf. Stow's 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), ii. 40-1.

Basset, late girdler, shows that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Hatters *temp.* Nicholas Wottone, Mayor, and John Bederendene, Chamberlain, viz., on the 22nd Jan., 9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430-1], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of "Haburdasshers"; he prays, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the said Mistery. His prayer granted *ut supra.*

6 Nov., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], the guardianship of Thomas, son of Nicholas Bowland, late "sherman," together with his patrimony of 10 marks, committed by Robert Large, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Richard Berde, fishmonger. In the event of the orphan dying under age, 5 marks to go to Isabella Berde [*sic*] his mother, wife of the said Nicholas. Sureties, viz., Thomas Hale and Thomas Hand, fishmongers.

Fo. 181 b. 13 Jan., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40], John Grivet, tailor, discharged by Robert Large, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

The same day John Trillowe, "taloughchandeler," similarly discharged for like cause.

Ordinance by Common Council held on Saturday, 9 Jan., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40], that double fees should be paid for two years for enrolment of apprentices, release of apprentices, and enrolment of all deeds and wills, in order to relieve the poverty of the Guildhall.[1]

Fo. 182. 13 Jan., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40], came good men of the Mistery of Writers of court-letter into the chamber of the Guildhall, before Robert Large, the Mayor, John Reynwelle, John Gedney, John Welles, John Broklee, Henry Frowyk, William Milreth, Ralph Holand, Thomas Catworth, William Gregory, John Olney, John Suttone, William Combes, and William Wetenhale, Aldermen, and prayed that certain articles might be approved to the following effect:—

[1] Cf. ordinance of Common Council, 14 March, 1412-13, touching the raising of money for the "new work" at the Guildhall. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' pp. 111-12; 'Memorials,' p. 590.

That no man of the craft make any evidence or muniment touching inheritance or other "feates of charge," or hold any shop of the said craft, until examined and found able by the Wardens and Freemen of the craft, or by the Mayor and Aldermen.

That every person enfranchised of the craft, and holding open shop in the City or suburbs, shall pay yearly twelve pence towards the support of the craft.

That no one enfranchised of the craft, without special licence, shall occupy or hold open more than one shop, in order that he may watch his apprentices and examine all "feates" made by them.

That every person of the craft holding open shop be ready to attend on summons by the Beadle of the craft.

The above articles (*inter alia*) approved. Fo. 182 b.

16 Feb., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40], came Nicholas Gille, of co. Lincoln, upholder, before Robert Large, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Upholder[1] *temp.* William Sevenoke, Mayor, and John Hille, Chamberlain, viz., on the 4th Oct., anno 7 Henry VI. [A.D. 1428], he had long used, and was still using, the mistery of "Peautrers," and not the mistery of Upholder. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the Art of "Peautrers." His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men [not named] of the said Mistery.

14 March, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40], came John, son of Robert Jones, of co. Northampton, before the same, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Girdelers" *temp.* Henry Frowyk, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 28th June, anno 14 Henry VI. [A.D. 1436], he had long used, and was still using, the mistery of "Lethersellers," and not the mistery of "Girdelers." He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the said Mistery of "Lethersellers." His prayer

[1] Upholsterer. See 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' p. 44 n.

granted at the instance of the Masters and good men [not named] of that Mistery.

Fo. 183. *Custodia.* 15 March, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439–40], the guardianship of John, son of Thomas Humberston, late mercer, and of Johanna, daughter of the said Thomas, together with their patrimony, committed by Robert Large, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Richard Cote. Sureties, viz., Thomas Bataille, mercer, William Taverner, "girdeler," William Foster, tailor, and John Carpenter, *senior*, "Serjeaunt."[1]

Custodia. 17 March, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40], the guardianship of Thomas and Alice, children of Ralph Hogman, grocer, together with a sum of money bequeathed to them by Anable, widow of John Furner, late grocer, committed by the same to the above Ralph. Sureties, viz., John Maldone, Richard Ketrych, and Thomas Rochford.

Ordinac' de Bowier'. Thursday, 10 Dec., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], the ordinances of the Bowiers recorded in Letter-Book H, fo. ccxcvi, and G, fo. cclxvi [b],[2] confirmed by the Mayor and Aldermen; and Robert Crulle and William Atte Wode elected Wardens of the Mistery.

Fo. 183 b. *Br'e pro tall' levand' de extran'.* Letters patent addressed to the Mayor and Aldermen bidding them summon the Constables of each Ward and make inquiry as to the names of householders, not English born, residing within their Wards, with the view of levying the subsidy (recently granted by Parliament) of 16 pence yearly on all such householders, and 6 pence on all persons not English born who are not householders.[3] Witness the King at Eltham, 28 Feb., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40].

[1] It is not clear whether this John Carpenter styled himself "senior" to distinguish him from John Carpenter, the late Town Clerk, who was occasionally styled "junior" (*vide supra*, p. 211), or as being the senior Serjeant either of the Mayor or of the Chamber.

[2] The ordinances of 1371 recorded in Letter-Book G were amended in 1429. *Vide supra*, pp. 94-5.

[3] 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 6. Cf. "Alyens were putte to hyr fynaunce to pay a certayne a yere to the Kynge." Gregory, 'Chron.,' p. 182. The tax proved such a success that it was

4 April, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], the guardianship of Constance, Simon, Reginald, and John, children of John Wedyhale, late goldsmith, together with their patrimony, committed by Robert Large, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Elizabeth, mother of the said orphans. Sureties, viz., John Bederenden, Robert Bertyn, Stephen Marchaunt, William Fyge, Matthew Foucher, citizens of London, and William Seyvance, esquire. *Custodia.*

Afterwards, viz., on the 10th Feb., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450-1], the above John Bederenden and William Seyvance having died, their places were taken as sureties by Thomas Canynges, grocer, and Thomas Thornton, draper.

4 April, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], the guardianship of Thomas, son of Richard Widihale, late goldsmith, together with sums of money bequeathed to him by his said father, by Alice his mother, and by John his brother, committed to Elizabeth, late wife of the said John Widihale. Sureties, viz., John Bederenden, Robert Bertyn, Stephen Marchaunt, William Fyge, citizens of London, and William Seyvaunce, esquire. Fo. 184.

Afterwards, viz., on the 4th Feb., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443-4], came the above William Seyvaunce before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and on behalf of the above Elizabeth delivered to John Chichele, the Chamberlain, the sum of £100 due to the above orphan.

Extract from the will of Richard Widihale, whereby he bequeaths 50 marks each to "Custance," Simon, Reginald, and John, his children, and makes Elizabeth his wife their guardian, and also bequeaths £20 to Thomas his (the testator's) brother. His said wife, together with John Walsshe, goldsmith, and Robert Kyngessone, vintner, appointed executors. [No date.]

afterwards renewed, and in 1453 was ordered to be continued during the King's life. Cf. *infra*, fos. 280 b, 290 b. Two hundred years later, viz., in 1635, the Mayor was called upon to make a return to the Lords of the Council of the number of strangers, born beyond the seas, who carried on a manual trade in the City to the prejudice of tradesmen and shopkeepers of London and the neighbourhood. The number returned was 2,547. See 'Analytical Index to the City's Remembrancia,' pp. 420-1.

Exoneracio. 18 April, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], David Brounyng, taverner, discharged by Robert Large, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

1 July, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], the guardianship of Johanna, daughter of Stephen Samptone, together with her patrimony of 100 marks, committed by Robert Large, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, with the assent of Alice Samptone, the orphan's mother, to William Raulyn, grocer. Sureties, viz., Nicholas Wifold, Saier Acre, and John Maldone. The above money was afterwards delivered to John Grenelane, who had the permission of the Mayor and Aldermen to marry the above orphan.

Fo. 184 b. Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to make proclamation of a petition of the Commons in Parliament to the King to impose restrictions upon alien merchants dwelling and trading within the realm for the next seven years,[1] and of the King's reply thereto. Witness the King at Westminster, 1 March, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40].

Fo. 185. Precept to the several Aldermen to assess and levy in their respective Wards a fourth part of a fifteenth, and to bring the money into the Guildhall by a certain day. Dated 2 June, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440].

Fo. 185b. *Ordin' de Cowpers.* 6 May, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], certain ordinances of the Mistery of "Copers" or "Coupers" approved by the Mayor and Aldermen at the request of good men of the Mistery.[2]

Fo. 186. *De officio collectoris redditium pontis.* 13 May, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], the office of collector of rents appertaining to London Bridge granted, on the King's request, by Robert Large, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, to Robert Watsone.

[1] Among other limitations they were not allowed to reside in England except under the surveillance of the "Hosts" with whom they were obliged to lodge, and who kept a register of all their mercantile transactions for the information of the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer; all their merchandise had to be sold within eight months of landing, under penalty of forfeiture, and the proceeds of sale were to be invested in English goods. 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 24-5.

[2] Set out in Firth's 'Hist. Memoranda of the Coopers Company' (pp. 12-14) from the Letter-Book.

Letters patent appointing John Suttone, William Wetenhale, Everard Flete, and Nicholas Wyfold collectors in the City of the subsidy granted by Parliament, due allowance being made to impoverished Wards pursuant to the ordinance.[1] Witness the King at Westminster, 24 April, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440]. *L'ra patens d'ni Reg' missa collectoribus quint'.*

Letters patent appointing R[obert Gilbert], Bishop of London, and William Estfeld, Knt., Robert Cloptone, John Carpenter, and Geoffrey Feldyng, the City's representatives in the last Parliament, to apportion (*inter alia*) the sum of £76 15*s.* 6¼*d.* among the impoverished parishes and Wards of the City contributing to the subsidy granted in the same Parliament. Fos. 186b-187.

Writ to the Mayor to take special precautions for preserving the peace in the City, and to summon all absent Aldermen to return to the City and render assistance.[2] Witness the King at Westminster, 23 June, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440]. Fo. 187 b. *Br'e de pace.*

5 July, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], Peter Rowte, of co. Suffolk, "letherseller," discharged by Robert Large, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio.*

Letters patent touching a petition recently made to the King in Parliament by the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, that they might be allowed to distrain the lands and tenements charged by the will of John Pulteney, Knt., with certain payments for the maintenance of chantries, &c., in the event of such payments being in arrear, to which petition the King had given his consent.[3] Witness the King at Westminster, 26 Nov., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439]. *Pro cantariis Pulteney per parliamentum.*

Wednesday, 6 July, 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], came Thomas Fetherstone before the Mayor and Aldermen, and stated that on the eve of the Translation of St. Martin [4 July] he had Fo. 188. *De sigillo perdito.*

[1] 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 4, 5. The allowance made to divers poor Wards is recorded on pp. 240-1. Similar relief had been granted in 1434. *Vide supra*, p. 177.

[2] A certain priest and a layman had recently been burnt on Tower Hill for heresy, and their death had given rise to much popular outcry, necessitating extra precautions for preserving the peace. See Gregory, 'Chron.,' p. 183; Kingsford's 'London Chronicles,' p. 147; Fabyan, p. 613.

[3] 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 9-10.

had his gold seal or signet and his purse cut away and secretly carried off by some clever thief.[1] He gives notice that he will not in future acknowledge any deed sealed with that seal, which can be identified by a capital T engraved upon it.

Proclamacio. Proclamation to be made on the King's behalf against any gatherings in the City and suburbs by day or night which are likely to lead to disturbance of the peace.

Also for able-bodied beggars to leave the City and go to "þe parties of up land to serve and labour in þe present time of August."

Also for every householder to have before his front a barrel of water in case of fire.

Also forbidding night walkers after curfew.

Also forbidding boatmen to fasten their boats on the further side of the river or carry any person across the water after curfew.

Also that no taverner, brewer, hosteler, "cooke," or pie-baker keep his door open after curfew.

Lastly, that no person "lene to no Rower of the Galeys nether to no servaunt of the Galeys no maner of vitaylle nether no oþer thynge wherþorwe þe seid Galeys or any persone to hem longyng might be taryde of her passage or vexed in the lawe but be suffisiant undertakyng of oone of þe patrons of the seid Galeys on peyn of lesyng of alle suche vitayle or oþer thynge so lent ayens the commaundment of owre soverayn lorde the Kyng aboveseid."

Fo. 188 b. Deductions made from the amount due for the subsidy granted in the last Parliament from certain impoverished Wards, by William Estfeld, Knt., Robert Cloptone, John Carpenter, and Geoffrey Feldyng, the City members, with the consent of Robert [Gilbert], Bishop of London, viz., Cordewanerstrete, £18; Vyntrie, £11; Tower, £10; Dowgate, £8; Chepe, £4 15*s.* 6*d.*; Bisshopesgate, £4; Farndone Within, £5;

[1] *Per quendam subtilem lotrunculum.*

Colmanstrete, 40*s.*; Portsoken, £3; Bridge, £3; Walbroke, £3; Crepulgate, £3; Quenehithe, 40*s.*; Lymestrete, ¼*d.*[1]

At a congregation of the Mayor and Aldermen in the Guild-hall on Friday, 2 Sept., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], there being present Robert Large, the Mayor, William Estfeld, John Reynwelle, John Welles, John Gedney, Henry Frowyk, Thomas "Wannesford," William Milreth, Thomas Chaltone, Robert Cloptone, Ralph Holand, William Gregory, John Olney, John Suttone, Nicholas Yeo, and William Combes, Aldermen, Robert Marchall and Philip Malpas, the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty of the City, the articles and ordinances which follow were publicly read and confirmed, and agreed to be strictly observed in the future. Fo. 189.

In that Common Council there was proffered a certain petition to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty by Robert Marchall and Philip Malpas, the Sheriffs, as follows:—

"Unto þe Rigȝth gracious lordes the Mair and Aldremen and to þe right sad and discrete Co'ers of þe Cite of London in þis Co'e councelle assemblede;—

"Shewen mekely Roberd Marchall and Philippe Malpas Shirrevs of the same Cite That forasmoche þe seyde Phelippe at þe court day holden to fore hym' in þe yeldehall after þe custume of þe same Cite the Thursday þe First day of Septembre last passed send a bille unto þe Kynges Gayle of Neugate by John Norburgh officer of þe seyde court for to facche oon John Knyght Soudiour þen prisoner in þe sayde Gayle unto þe seyde court for to answere þen and þere un to John Bromley Soudeour in a pleint of dette of xi*s.* vj*d.* Biforce of which bille þe seyde officer went un to Neugate and ther resceyved of þe keper þe sayd prisoner purposyng to bryng hym un to þe court as he was commaundede and as þe seyde officer was comyng toward þe seid court in the Kyngys highway directly afore þe lane of

[1] It will be seen that the total amounts to £76 15*s.* 6¼*d.*, the sum specified in the King's writ, *supra*, p. 239. On this occasion the money appears to have been apportioned among fourteen Wards, whereas in 1434 the same sum was apportioned for the relief of eighteen. *Vide supra*, p. 177.

seint Martyn certein persones þat is to sey Richard Morys, John Rede, William Janyver and "Cristofre"[1] Blakborne with mony other which be knowe for errant and notory theves felawes of þe sayde John Knyght which long tyme to fore hadde hidde and kept hem in þe seyntuary of seynt Martyn for þeir robberies felonyes and mysgovernaunces came sodenly with force and armys þat is to sey with daggers drawe ayens þe Kynges pees his croune and his dignite and maden asawte un to the seyde officer and then and there þorugh þe help of þe seid John Knyght toke and rescowed þe same John Knyght out of þe possessioun of þe forseide officer and ledde hym in to þe seyntuary of seint Martyns expressely bothe ayens þe comyn lawe of this land and ayens þe liberties and Fraunchise of þe same Cite And also to grete hurt and losse to your said suppliauntz and shall be her after to þeir successours in like case bot if this mesprisioun and offence be manly remedied and withstonde as lawe wille wherfore like hit un to your right wise and sadde discrecions in kepyng and observyng of þe libertees and Fraunchises aboveseid to þe which every freman is sworn that forasmoche as your seyde suppliauntz be grevously manased and þat by the Dene of þe seide Seyntuary for the takyng of þe seid John Knyght and his felawes out þ'of for to be vexed and suede in temporell and spirituall lawes to þeir finell (?) hurt and grevaunce o lesse þen wille restore hem un to þe seyde seyntuary That þis mater may be comynde with þe counceylle of þe Cite and in especiall with John Carpenter,[2] and if hit be founde and knowe by lawe þat your besechers have observed the libertees and kept þe worship of þe Cite in þis parte lyke as they be sworne to that þe cost if eny shalle he do hereafter for þe right of this Cite to maynteyne and to defende þe evell Willes of þem þat wolle maligne and attempte ayens your sayde suppliantz or this Cite in this mater þat alle suche cost be do at þe co'e cost of alle þis Cite for the love of God and in wey of charite Consideryng þat this cause is every Fremannys cause

[1] "Thomas" *infra*, p. 245.

[2] The late Common Clerk of the City, whose knowledge of law and the franchises and customs of the City was still occasionally invoked by the civic authorities.

and þe gode and trewe kepyng and defendyng of the libertes of this famous Cite is þe welfare of every man þat is inhabitant theryn."

The above prayer granted.

It was further declared in the same Common Council that the Sheriffs for the time being shall at their own expense provide custodians of the gates of Neugate and Ludgate, to open and shut and keep the same, and shall be always responsible for the said custodians.

Also in the same Common Council a grant was made of 1,000 marks to complete the new conduit and repair the old one, the same to be levied in the Wards, and any surplus remaining over to be devoted to relief from subsidy.

Also it was ordained that all attorneys should be yearly sworn as of old accustomed.

It was further ordained that the Tasters of ale, commonly called "Alkonners," should be elected in Wardmote and be sworn before the Mayor and Aldermen as hitherto accustomed. Fo. 189 b.

On the 14th Sept. [A.D. 1440], the lord the Mayor (*dominus Maior*)[1] received royal letters, severe enough (*satis exasperatas*), and also a royal writ as follows:—

"To oure trusty and Welbeloved the Maire Shirreffes and Aldremen of oure Cite of London.

L'ra d'ni Reg' pro eccl'ia Sc'i Martini.

"Trusty and Welbeloved After many grete and grevous compleintes made unto us this yere of divers mysgovernances and mesprisions doon and of nowe usurped withinne oure Cite of London ayens the places of oure fundacioun and the libertees franchises and privileges by oure noble progenitours graunted to the same and by us confermed Soo ferforth and in suche wise þat it is opyn to every man of good entendement that nother in the Kyng my lord and Faders ne in noon oþer of oure noble

[1] This appears to be the first time that the Mayor—when not mentioned by name—is recorded as *dominus*. The usual meaning of *dominus* (more especially when found in connexion with *miles* or knight) is "Sir," and the mode of addressing a Mayor as "Sir Mayor" was customary at this time. In 1504, however, we find both "my lorde Mayre" and "dominus Maior." Rep. 1, fo. 155 b; Jor. 10, fo. 325 (322).

progenitours days whom God absoille soo many inconvenientes of right evel ensample have been in so short tyme attempted ayens God & his churche whos right & libertees we be sworn in oure coronacion to kepe and defende and so we shall by Goddes might oure lif during and also after divers oure writinges & messages in suche case for the redresse þerof sent by us un to yow þe which in effect hath be take to no reputacioun nor no fruyt ensuyd þerof It is now late commen unto oure knowlech þat þe first day of this present moneth of Septembre Phelipe Malpas and Robert Marchall Shirreffes of oure said Cite of London accompanyed with many hundredes of þe co'e people entred oure Churche and Sayntuarie of Saynt Martyns þe graunt in London and ayens the lawfull monicions of þe Officers of þe place toke out with hem v. men which come þe same day in to þe seyde seyntuarye and asked and had the immunitees therof in forme accustumed & theym led fettred in to the Countour & from thens cheyned by the nekkys ij. to gedre al naked save theire lynnyn clothes þourgh Chepe un to Neugate wher thei be yet under many Irnes & grevous prison[1] Wherof we merveille us gretely & take þerof if it soo be right grete displesance as we have cause soo to doo Seeyng such exhorbitant noveltees thus boldly as hit were doone of menne awles to be doon in oure days namely by such as we trusted wold have yoven better ensample to alle oþer of oure subgettes of reverence to God & dwe obeissance to us as they be bounden un to Wherfore we havyng wele in oure consideracioun þat howebe hit ye might by eny colour pretende þat by thentre of þe said menne in to the seid Seyntuarie any thyng wer doon

[1] The Dean of St. Martin le Grand, in a very similar account of the matter he presented to the King at Windsor, here adds, "and like to be dead hastily, as their frendes saien." See Kempe (*op. cit.*, p. 119), whose account of the conflict between the City and the Dean appears to be chiefly derived from a Lansdowne MS. in the British Museum, without any reference to the City's record. This letter, as well as a record of proceedings which subsequently took place in this contest between the City and the Dean and Chapter of St. Martin le Grand, are to be found at length in the MS. known as 'Liber Fleetwood' (fos. 144 *et seq.*) already referred to (*supra*, p. 151 n.).

unto you or ayens þe Fraunchises graunted unto you other wise than right wolle ye ought in no wyse to take redresse or execucion at your owne hande þe whiche ar partie & namely in oure privileged place within the which ye have nought to doon but rather þat it had fitten (?) you right wele to have made your compleynt unto us or oure hede officers Wol & charge you streitly as ye wol answere un to us at your peril þat in alle hast possible after þe sight of thees oure lettres ye ordeyn þat the sayde v. men be frely in alle wise unhurt restored unto oure said priveleged Church & Seintuary of Saynt Martyns as thei were taken oute þerof And þat suche noveltees & mesprisions be not here after attempted ayenst any of oure privileged places as ye woll eschewe oure displeasance & indignacioun and other peyns suche as may & ought to Folowe þerof Yoven under oure signet at oure Castel of Wyndesore the xj day of Septembre" [A.D. 1440].

Br'e pro eccl'ia Martini.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs, on complaint made to the King by the Dean and Chapter of St. Martin le Grand, bidding them restore to the said Dean or his Commissary the persons of John Knight, John Rede, "Thomas"[1] Blackbourne, William Janyver, and Richard Morys, who had been forcibly removed from sanctuary. Witness the King at the Castle of Wyndesore, 10 Sept.,[2] 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440].

Fo. 190.

The above letter and King's writ having been seen and fully understood, and the seriousness of the case having been taken into consideration, it was decreed that the Mayor and eight Aldermen should proceed with all speed to interview the lord the King at Waltham, and defend themselves against the charges brought against them; and on the following day they arrived at the Abbey of Waltham,[3] where they received an answer from the Bishop of Salisbury, the lord Bardolf, and Sir Ralph Boteler, Knt., on the King's behalf, that the matter should be duly determined at common law, and that the lord the King did not wish that the City should suffer any prejudice. He also

[1] "Cristofre" *supra*, p. 242.

[2] 12 Sept. (Fleetwood, fo. 145 b).

[3] "Copped halle beside Waltham" is the place named in Fleetwood (fo. 145 b).

promised that his royal majesty would be gracious to the City. The men so taken in the church of St. Martin le Grand by the Sheriffs continued to remain in prison until the Sheriffs received out of Chancery a writ of *corpus cum causa* touching the prisoners, who were thereupon conducted by the Sheriffs to the Chancellor. And because those persons who had plaints against the said prisoners were induced to declare themselves satisfied, the Sheriffs had no further cause for prosecution. Thereupon the lord the Chancellor, at the intervention of the said Dean of St. Martin, remitted the prisoners to the said church, as he well could do, and further process in that matter was stayed.[1]

Custodia. 26 Sept., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], the guardianship of Richard, son of Richard Coltone, late girdler, together with the sum of £20 and divers chattels, comprising silver spoons, a "baslard" harnessed with an ivory handle, a girdle harnessed throughout with "ostriche" feathers of silver, weighing with tissue (*cum tissut*)[2] 10 oz.; also the guardianship of Robert, another son, together with a sum of £20 and divers other chattels, and of Agnes and Margery, daughters of the said Richard, together with their patrimony, &c., committed to William Spicer. Sureties, viz., Thomas Canynges, John Maldone, John Somertone, grocers, and John Osyn, "letherseller."

At the Common Council aforesaid [2 Sept., 1440?] the following petition was presented:—

"To the worshipfull lorde the Mair and Aldermen and Comyns of the noble Citee of London

"Preyth and besecheth your pour servaunt William Symond that hit please un to your lordship that he myght have the oversight and the rule of alle the Canelles and other thynges fro temple barre un to the Toure with oute the walles in þe

[1] The City's account of the conclusion of the matter should be compared with that recorded in 'Liber Fleetwood' (fos. 162-4).

[2] Tissue at one time represented a peculiarly rich stuff, a variety of cloth of gold. The term is now used to represent anything woven, texture (Drapers' Dict.).

subarbes of London like as the serjeaunt of the Canelles hath withyn the walles & that he myght have a warrant that menne myght knowe tht he were suche an Officer of the Mair & of the Chaumbre for yef he sey eny thynge to eny defautes menne sette nothyng therby withoute he had hyt in commaundemente of yow Wherfor he praith yowe of an answer of this bille for the love of god and in wey of charite."

3 Sept., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], came William Hobold, baker, before Robert Large, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and complained of John Halle, a foreign baker of Southwerk,[1] marking bread with his (*i.e.*, the said William's) mark, viz., with three "prikkys," a mark that from time immemorial had belonged to his house in Clement lane, whereas every baker ought to have his own mark.[2] Thereupon the Mayor and Aldermen forbade the said John Halle to use the said mark, except for bread exposed for sale in the City, and so to be weighed like all other bread made in the same borough. Fo. 190 b. *De signo fistoris.*

Wednesday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], in the presence of Robert Large, the Mayor, William[3] Bowes the Recorder, William Estfeld, Knt., John Reynwelle, John Gedney, John Welles, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broun, Thomas Wannesford, John Pattesle, William Milreth, Robert Cloptone, John Hatherle, Ralph Holand, William Gregory, John Olney, Nicholas Yeo, William Combes, [Aldermen,] Robert Marchall and Philip Malpas, the Sheriffs, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, William Wetenhale was elected one of the *Eleccio vicecom'.*

[1] Towards the close of the thirteenth century regratresses (*i.e.*, female retail-dealers) were forbidden to buy bread in Southwark to be retailed in the City, the reason given being that bakers of Southwark were not amenable to the justice of the City (*non sunt de Justicia Civitatis*). 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' p. 217.

[2] Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' p. 216; also 'Liber Albus,' i. 264, 356; 'Memorials,' p. 323.

[3] His election not recorded, but he appears to have been sworn into office on Wednesday, the 13th July, 1440. (Journal 3, fo. 46.) In the record of his election as one of the City's representatives in the Parliament of 1442 he is called "*John* Bowys" (Jor. 3, fo. 108 b), and he appears as *John* Bowes *infra*, fos. 192 b, 197 b, &c. *William* as recorded here is evidently a clerical error.

Sheriffs by the Mayor, and John Sutton, goldsmith, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty for the year ensuing.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cooke, senior, draper, and John Herst, skinner, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and Nicholas Yeo, William Combes, Aldermen, John Norman, John Sturgeon, Geoffrey Feldyng, and Stephen Foster, Commoners, were elected Auditors of all the outstanding accounts of the Chamberlain and Wardens of London Bridge.[1]

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Petition of the Commons to the Mayor and Aldermen that the sum of £327 9*s.* 10*d.* found on account rendered before the above Auditors to be due to London Bridge from Thomas Badby and Richard Lovelas, late Wardens, may be devoted forthwith to the repair of the said Bridge; and also that a further sum of 250 marks, borrowed from the City in time past by Wardens of London Bridge, may be promptly repaid.

Fo. 191. The Commons further pray that special Auditors may be appointed to audit the accounts of William Wetnale, late one of the Wardens of London Bridge, "for it is supposed verraily by the grete part of us Comones þat of thilke DXIXli: vs: vi*d* which þe seyd Wetnale and Badby axen of the brigge shuld be founde but litell due to hem or nought."

Pursuant to the above petition, the following Auditors were appointed, viz., Walter Chertesey, John Higham, John Abbot, William Chapman, Nicholas Wyfold, Thomas Bataille, John Derby, Thomas Davy, and Christofer Warter.

Fo. 191 b. Friday, 23 Sept., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], came Thomas Beamond, John Legge, Henry Belle, William Petevyle, William atte Welle, and Master Thomas Tristram, before Robert Large, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond for the

[1] The variation in the form of appointment of Auditors is made by words interpolated, its purpose being seen in the petition which follows.

payment of £40 to Thomas, son of Thomas Burnage, late Salter, on his coming of age.

Pulteris.

Proclamation to be made regulating the sale of poultry in the City to the following effect, viz. :—

That all foreign "pulters" entering the City by Neugate and Aldrichgate sell their poultry on the pavement before the Friars Minors "besyde the welle" and not elsewhere, under penalty prescribed; that "pulters deynseyns" stand and sell in their appointed places, and meddle not with "foreyns"; that no "foreyn pulter" dwelling within the franchise or within seven miles of London sell within London any poultry bought by him of any other "foreyn pulter" within seven miles of the City, under penalty prescribed; also that no "foreyn pulter" sell poultry after 11 o'clock in the summer and 12 in winter, and that all their dead poultry not then sold be forfeited; that no "foreyn pulter" sell poultry within the franchise to any one "but in pleyne market," under penalty prescribed; that every "comyne pulter foreyn" bring with him, when he comes, all the poultry he has to sell "within his hoste," and that no "pulter deynseyn" buy poultry of any "foreyn" dwelling within the franchise or without before 9 o'clock, on pain of forfeiture.

Lethirsillers.

Wednesday, 5 Oct., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], ordinances touching the Leathersellers approved by the Mayor and Aldermen.[1]

Fo. 192.

Consi'lis billa missa fuit cuilibet Aldermanno.

Form of precept sent to the Aldermen to cause a certain sum to be raised in their respective Wards towards a moiety of 1,000 marks granted by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty on the 7th Sept. last for the work of the new conduit;[2] and further, to cause assayers of ale to be elected according to the

[1] Set out in Black's History of the Company, pp. 24, 25. Immediately following these ordinances (fo. 192) there is recorded an ordinance (undated, but evidently of the same date as the ordinances that precede), almost in the same words as that recorded *supra*, p. 227, but with an additional clause, enjoining that all manner of "nayles, arowhedes and all other hardware" shall also be brought to the Seld "ordeyned therfor" on the North side of the Guildhall.

[2] Cf. *supra*, pp. 233, 243.

custom of the City. Dated under the Mayoralty seal, 4 Oct., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440].

Consimilis billa missa fuit cuilibet Aldermanno.

Form of precept to the same to cause good men to be elected for assessment of a half of a fifteenth, and to levy the money so assessed and bring it to the Guildhall by the 24th Oct. next. Dated under the Mayoralty seal, 8 Oct., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440].

Concessio fact' ad Joh'em Croxtone.

Saturday, 7 Oct., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], came John Croxtone, mason, to the Mayor and Aldermen, and prayed that, in consideration of his long service of 29 years as mason of the "comyn Yeldhalle" of the City and of his great age, he might have "an olde shedde stondyng next with oute þe newe yate that ledeth in to þe Selde of lethir atte þe Yeldhal on the northside of þe same yate, and the newe housyng over the same yate and ageynst the seyd Shedde þat is of two stages geteed w^t^ þe grounde undirnethe þe seyd two stages on þe northside of þe same yate duryng the brede of þe same shedde & with free entre & issue to and fro þ^e^ strete"—to hold the same to himself and "Anneys" his wife, and to the longest liver, and to the executors and assigns of his said wife for one year after her decease.

His prayer granted.

Afterwards, viz., on Wednesday, the 2nd May, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], the above prayer was granted by Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, John Welles, Thomas Wandesford, John Paddesle, William Milrede, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, John Olney, John Suttone, Nicholas Yeo, William Combys, William Wetenhale, John Norman, Aldermen, and the whole Commonalty of the City.

Fo. 192 b.

Eleccio Joh' "Paddesle" Maioris.

Thursday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], in the presence of Robert Large, the Mayor, John Sevenoke the Prior of Christchurch, John Bowes the Recorder, William Estfeld, Knt., Nicholas Wottone, John Reynwelle, John Gedney, John Welles, John Brokle, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broun, Thomas Wannesford, John Pattesle, William Milreth, John Hathirle, Robert Cloptone, Ralph Holand, Thomas Chaltone, John Olney, William Gregory,

Nicholas Yeo, John Suttone, and William Wetnale, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, John Pattesle was so elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

20 Oct., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], the guardianship of Thomas, son of John Frankyssh, called "Bostone," late mercer, committed by Robert Large, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, together with his patrimony of £1,000, to Thomas Onhand, mercer, one of the executors of the orphan's father, on condition that he pay one moiety of the said £1,000 to the said orphan on his coming of age, and the other when he arrives at the age of 26 years, or earlier if it can be profitably employed. *Custod'.*

The same day came into the Court of the lord the King, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before the aforesaid Mayor and Aldermen, Thomas Bataille, Eborard Flete, Elias Davy, Hugh Whiche, and John Derham, mercers, and became sureties for the above Thomas Onhand.

Letter from John Bowes, Recorder of the City, to the Prioress and Convent of St. Helen, London, presenting Thomas Sherman, of the diocese of Norwich, chaplain, to the chantry founded in the church of St. Michael upon Cornhill[1] by Walter de Billyngham, vacant by the death of John Cook, and charging them to pay the said chaplain the sum of 7 marks pursuant to the will of the said Walter, proved and enrolled in the Husting.[2] Dated 20 Nov., A.D. 1440. Fo. 192.*

3 Jan., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440–1], came John Chichele, the Chamberlain, and acknowledged that he had received from Margery Dommer, William Andrewe, clerk, and Thomas Colman, chandler, executors of John Dommer, late mercer,

[1] A similar presentation is recorded in Letter-Book I ('Cal.,' p. 220), where the editor has inadvertently named the church of St. Helen instead of the church of St. Michael Cornhill.

[2] 'Cal. of Wills,' i. 581.

plate, &c., to the value of £20, in trust for William, son of the said John Dommer.

Friday, 2 Oct., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], there came into the Court of the lord the King, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, Robert Eldrebek and Margery his wife, late wife of John Dommer, mercer, Matthew Halle, goldsmith, John Goodson, mercer, and William Thornhill, mercer, and bound themselves to pay the sum of £20 to John Chichele, the Chamberlain.

The same day the guardianship of William, son of John Dommer, late mercer, together with plate to the value of £20, was committed by the said Mayor and Aldermen to the above Robert Eldrebek and Margery his wife.

Fo. 192*b. 12 Jan., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440–1], William Downe, "talough chaundeller," discharged by John Pattesley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

The same day came Richard Pierson, girdler, before the said Mayor and Aldermen, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Girdelers" *temp.* William Estfeld, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 5th August, 17 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439], he had long used, and was still using, the mistery or art of Hurers, and not the art of "Girdelers." He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the said Art of Hurers. His prayer granted at the instance of good men of the said Art.

21 Jan., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440-1], the guardianship of John, son of John Bacheler, late salter, and of Alice, daughter of the same, together with their patrimony, committed by John Pattesley, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to John Renkyn. Sureties, viz., Richard Riche, mercer, John Roo, and John Cook.

Fo. 193. Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs notifying that the dispute between them and the merchants of Janua touching the exaction of scavage (*skuuagii*) on their merchandise[1] had been referred to the Chief Justices of both Benches and the Chief

[1] Cf. *supra*, pp. 167, 174-6.

Baron of the Exchequer to hear and determine. The said Mayor and Sheriffs are bidden to attend with all evidence, when required, and in the meantime to cease exacting the said toll. Witness the King at Westminster, 12 Dec., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440].

Return made to the above by John Pattesley, the Mayor, and William Wetenhale and John Suttone, the Sheriffs, to the effect that since the receipt of the above and two other writs no demand had been made for scavage from merchants of Janua trading with the City.

Another writ to the same to similar effect, and forbidding the exaction of scavage (*escuagii*) from merchants of Janua until the matter had been decided by the Justices, under penalty of £1,000. Witness the King at Westminster, 14 Feb., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440–1].

Return to the above to the effect that since the receipt of the King's orders the said merchants had not been molested for payment of scavage.

Saturday, 17 December, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], William Estfeld and John Welles, Aldermen, appointed to superintend the work of the conduit. Afterwards John Paddesle was appointed in place of John Welles. Fo. 193 b.

The same day Robert Cloptone, John Olney, Aldermen, Simon Eyre, William Chapman, Thomas Knolles, and John Norman, Commoners, were deputed to receive and expend the money for the conduit and to audit the accounts of William Cleve in respect of the work.

17 Feb., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440-1], there came certain "estraungers," using the occupation of linen and woollen weavers within the City and suburbs, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Pattesle, the Mayor, William Estfeld, Nicholas Wottone, John Reynwelle, John Welles, Henry Frowyk, Robert Large, Robert Cloptone, John Hatherle, Ralph Holand, Thomas Catworth, William Gregory, John Olney, and William Combes, Aldermen, and prayed that they might elect two persons yearly to search for inferior work, and that certain ordinances might be approved.

The said ordinances approved for the time being, the Mayor and Aldermen reserving the right to amend them.

Fo. 194. 20 March, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440-1], came John Dagevyle and Johanna his wife, daughter of John Thomas, late citizen of London, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and acknowledged satisfaction for the sum of £8 4*s.* 7½*d.* bequeathed to the said Johanna by John her father and Margery her mother, which they had received from John Cosyn, executor of the said Margery.

4 April, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], came Henry Dene, Keeper of the Ludgate, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Pattesle, the Mayor, William Estfeld, John Welles, Henry Frowyk, Robert Large, John Olney, John Sutton, William Combes, and William Wetenhale, Aldermen, and presented the following petition :—

"To the full honurable Lord the Maire of the Cite of London and to alle the worthy Soverayns Aldremen of þe same Cite

Supplicacio custod' de Ludgate. "Lowly compleyneth un to your wise discrec'ons your servaunt Henry Dene keper of the prison of ludgate that howe of olde tyme accustumed it hath be used for the esement of þe Kinges prisoners there to have the voidance & Issue of clensing of the prive of þe seid prison into the towne dyche on the north partie of the seid prison till nowe it is lette be oon Nicholas Clement, Joynour, dwelling next þe seid prison be his edificac'ons there set which wol nat suffre the seid voidance ther to be had Please hit your high wisdams tendrely to considre howe the seid prive most nedes be voided and clensed or els it wol destroye the Kinges prisoners to many a mannes hurt and howe there is noon othir place to have voidance by but if it shuld be taken in the Kinges high wey to noyance of al the Kinges people and dishonour of this Cite And þere upon to commaunde þe seid Nicholas in saving of the Kinges prisoners to make noon obstacle trowble ne let of the seid voidance but þat it be had and used in the seid place as of olde tyme it hath be accustumed And over this in recompence of the grete costages that wol be therof and othir notable chargys that it

please your wisdams and goode grace to graunte your seid suppliant his seid office for the terme of x yere next suyng to have & to holde in like maner forme & condic'on as othir kepers and leuetenauntes there have hold hit before these dayes fyndyng suerte sufficiant to the Shirrefs of sure kepyng as it hath been accustumed before this tyme and in this doyng I trust to God alle the prisoners there shul have cause to pray for you."

Thereupon it was agreed that the above Nicholas should be examined by the Mayor and be made to act justly, and that the said Henry should continue in his place according to his petition.

31 May, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], William Aleyn, "lorimer," discharged by John Pattesley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 194 b.

22 June, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], John Grene, skinner, similarly discharged for like cause.

8 July, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], Stephen Wyn', "breuer," similarly discharged for like cause.

19 July, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], William Bacon, "breuer," similarly discharged for like cause.

31 July, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], William May, "turner," similarly discharged for like cause.

16 Aug., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], John Long, "couper," similarly discharged for like cause.

29 Aug., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], John Salter, taverner (*pandoxator*), similarly discharged for like cause.

27 Sept., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], William Bremble, "pynner," similarly discharged for like cause.

12 Aug., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], the guardianship of Elena and Johanna, daughters of [Thomas] Coterell,[1] together with the sum of £70, committed by John Pattesley, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to [*record imperfect*]. Fo. 195.

[1] See the will of John Body, son of Johanna Body, daughter of Thomas Coterell, late mercer. 'Cal. of Wills, Court of Hust.,' ii. 420–1.

Names of Masters of divers Misteries sworn anno xix and xx Henry VI.

Armorers: John Cliftone, William Hamond, Richard Hathwey, sworn Wardens 3 Nov., anno 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440].

Pulters: John Leche, Richard Cok, James Mogon', John Warner, sworn Wardens 4 Nov.

Tylers: John Mersshe, senior, Thomas Mannyng, Walter Spenser, sworn Wardens 15 Nov.

Skinners: John Uphaveryng, Thomas Holgreve, Thomas Astone, William Leycestre, sworn Masters 23 Nov.

Peintours: Henry Mase, Guy Lincoln, sworn Wardens 2 Dec.

Fullers: John Lane, Henry Brice, Simon Potyn, sworn Wardens 12 Dec.

Lynnen and *Woollenwevers*, foreign: John Borham, Geoffrey Petersson, sworn Wardens 20 Feb., anno 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440–1].

Brasiers: Moises Gerveys, Robert Snell, sworn Wardens 16 March.

Masons: John Hardy, William Goodburgh, sworn Wardens 5 May [A.D. 1441].

Shethers: John Clerk, William Pais, sworn Wardens 27 June.

Cotelers: Richard Asser, John Marchall, John Amell, sworn Wardens 27 June.

Cordeweners: John Saunson, Walter Lucas, Thomas Melyard, John Gererdesson, sworn Wardens 28 June.

Coupers: Thomas Pleystowe, Henry Langeshote, sworn Wardens 4 July.

Lynnenwevers: Henry Venkyll, Thomas Chirche, sworn Wardens 26 July.

Lorymers: Richard Fuller, Thomas Gore, sworn Wardens 31 July.

Brouderers: John Lambe, Henry Wyche, sworn Wardens 31 July.

Bladsmythis: John Layner, William Huberd, sworn Wardens 29 August.

Carpenters and *Fremasons:* John Croxton, John Broun, Richard Brid, Richard Bryght, sworn Masters.....August.

Haberdasshers: Walter Peryn, John Polhill, Richard Denman, William Mercaunt, Wardens, 5 Sept., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441].

Girdelers: Richard Lye (?), Thomas Hacche, William Punchon, Wardens, 6 Sept.

Stacioners: Robert Chirch, John Pye, Wardens, 22 Sept.

Joynours: John Lynde, William Holt, Wardens, 28 Sept.

Steynours: Thomas Bee, Simon Scarlet, 28 Sept.

Diers: John Ludford, William Palmer, 29 Sept.

Horners: John Webbe, William Wylkeshire, 4 Oct.

Tapicers: Ralph Spayn, Richard Pope, William Ferthyng, Stephen Parker, 5 Oct.

Brewers: Henry Trebolaunce, John Ryver, William Harry, Thomas Russell, 5 Oct.

Pynners: Geoffrey Wade, William Stodell, John Couper, 11 Oct.

Flecchers: John Frampton, John Hamond, 25 Oct.

Writ of certiorari to the Mayor and Aldermen touching an action brought by John Wakeryng, Master of the House or Hospital of St. Bartholomew in Westsmythfeld, in the Court of the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall. Witness the King at Westminster, 2 July, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441]. Fo. 195 b.

Return made to the above to the following effect, viz., that according to the ancient liberties and customs of the City existing from time immemorial, and confirmed by divers charters and the authority of Parliament, all plaints and processes begun in the King's courts of the City must there be determined. Moreover that plaints in other courts of the City should not be removed to be heard by the King's Justices, unless something foreign be pleaded or alleged which those courts are unable to recognize, and that proceedings in error in such cases are by custom taken at St. Martin le Grand and not elsewhere.

De Subvic' annuatim non essend' removibil' etc.

Thursday, 20 July, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], ordinance of the Common Council that henceforth Under-Sheriffs should not be removable, but remain in office during good behaviour, frequent removals having caused great expense and inconvenience.

Fo. 196. *Ordinance of Bakers.*

"Un to the full Worshipfull and Governor the Maior of the Cite of London and all your Worshipfull Bretherne Aldermen of the same Cite

"Plese hit to youre wyse discrecions to have knowlech of the old reule usid by tuene the Whit Bakers and the broune Bakers of the seid Cite be which rewle and use the Whit bakers may knowe her part of their occupacion by hem selfe and the broune bakers by hem selfe That is to say the White by [*sic*] shall bake all maner of brede that thei can make of whete that is to wete white loofe brede wastell bunnys and all maner of whyte brede that hath be used of old tyme Also the seid Whit bakers mow bake whete brede that was called sum tyme cribill brede,[1] and also basket brede such as is sold in chepe for pore men Bote the seid White bakers shall bake no hors brede of no assise nother of her owne nother of none other mennys for to sell

"The rewle of the broune bakers is this and theire occupacioun that is for to sey the seid broune bakers shall bake whete brede as it comyth grounde fro the mylle w^t^oute ony bultyng of the same Also the seid broune bakers shall bake hors brede of clene benys and pesyn And also brede that is called housholdersbrede and they shall take j*d.* for every busshell bakyng But the said broune bakers shall bake no whit brede of ony assise nother of there owne nor of other mennys for to sell Besechyng your gracious lordship that this maner of gouvernauns and reule may be kept as well in whit bakers as in broune bakers as hit hath be of old tyme.

"Also hit is fully acordid that what persone that brekith ony of thes artiklis aforeseid shall pay vj*s.* viij*d.* half to the use of the chaumbir of London and halfe to the use of Mister' of broun Bakers."

[1] A bread of inferior leaven, which, by an order *circa* 1378, had to be boulted, or passed through a sieve (*crybre*). 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 107. Cf. "panem cribro (*cribre*) scinceratum (*ecclersy*)." Neckham (Wright's Vocab.), p. 97.

Letters patent appointing the Mayor, the Aldermen, the Justices of the Peace, and Sheriffs of the City to be Commissioners for levying the tax imposed by the last Parliament on foreigners, householders in the City, and not householders, respectively.[1] Witness the King at Westminster, 27 July, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441].

Saturday, 28 Oct., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], came Henry Coventre, an orphan, before John Paddisley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and acknowledged that he had received his patrimony from Sir William Estfeld, Knt.

Monday, 14 Aug., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], came the Master and Wardens and good men of the Mistery of Drapers into the inner Chamber of the Guildhall before John Pattesley, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and complained that whereas, in times past, the Master and Wardens of the said Mistery in conjunction with a Serjeant-at-mace of the Chamber of the Guildhall were accustomed to have the search of all woollen cloth and of the measures called "metyerdes" brought to the City for sale, they had recently been prevented in such search by men of the Mistery of Tailors, on the ground that the right had been vested in them by the Mayor; the said Drapers, therefore, prayed a remedy. Therefore, taking into consideration that the science and knowledge of measures and the defect and sufficiency of cloths appertain to Drapers, but the fitting and sewing together of cloth are best known to Tailors, the two sciences being essentially different, and necessitating a different mode of instructing their apprentices, the said Mayor and Aldermen decreed that the Master and Wardens of the Drapers should continue their search as before, but for the purpose of peace, until the Tailors shall have come and put in their reply, the Mayor took again into his own hands the search of woollen cloth exposed for sale by tailors at St. Bartholomew's Fair, and appointed as his deputies for the purpose John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in conjunction

Fo. 196 b. *Pannar'*.

[1] *Vide supra*, p. 236.

with two sworn men, viz., one from the Mistery of Shermen and the other from the Mistery of Fullers, to assist as experts.

Writ to John Paddesley, the Mayor, bidding him to allow the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity and Mistery of Tailors and Linen Armourers of St. John the Baptist to make search and remedy defects found in those misteries and all engaged in them, pursuant to the King's letters patent granted to the said Master and Wardens. Witness the King at Dogmersfeld,[1] 14 Aug., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441].

Fo. 197. Letters patent addressed to Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, confirming to the Mayor for the time being the right of supervision and search in respect of victuals and all misteries in the City, according to the City's ancient liberties and customs, notwithstanding the opposition of certain men of the Mistery of Tailors and others. Witness the King at Westminster, 21 Aug., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442].

The King "to the Maister and Wardeins of ye mestiere of Taillours o)'wise called Taillours Craft & o)' of ye fraternite of Seint John ye Baptiste with Inne oure Citee of London'"

"Trusti and welbeloved we have under stonde by the humble supplicacion of oure right trusty and welbeloved the Maire of our citee of London how that ye have purchased of us & of oure graunt by our l'res patentes under our greet seal among other thynges to have serch and correccion of the mestier of Taillours[2] otherwyse called Taillours craft and of other of the Fraternite of seint John the baptiste within our Citee of London into the hurt and prejudice of the libertees and privileges by oure noble progenitours & predecessours Kynges of England graunted unto our seid Citee the whiche we by oure l'res patentes have confermyd and that ye wythin short tyme dispose yow to put in execucion oure seid l'res soo to yow grauntid as touchyng the serche of the seid Taillours Crafte and of other after the tenure of the same oure l'res And we wyllyng the seid libertes

[1] Co. Hants.

[2] Alluding to the charter of 1439, which is said to have been obtained "at the grete coste" of £71 5s. 3d. See Clode's 'Early Hist. of the Merchant Taylors Company,' p. 36.

and privilages by oure seid progenitours and predecessours to the seid Citee grauntid and by us confermed to by kept unhurt and unblemisshed in alle their pointis wol therfore and charge yow straitli that anon after the sight of thes alle excusac'ons cessyng ye cesse & make noo serche of the seid taillours crafte ne of non other by force & vertu of our seid l'res patentes to yow graunted as above the contenne (?) of hem notwithstondyng And that ye obeie to suche serches as that the seid Mair or hys deputees by vertu of his office & of the seid libertees and privileges shal make and that ye be before us & oure counsail at oure Paleys of Westm' at the xv of Seint Michel next comyng bringyng with yow the said l'res patentes so by us graunted unto yow and we wil that no wise ye faille this upon peyne &c. Yeven at Shene the xxj day of August anno xx [A.D. 1442]."[1]

Thursday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], in the presence of John Pattesley, Mayor, John Bowes, the Recorder, William Estfeld, Knt., John Reynwelle, John Welles, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broun, William Myldreth, John Hatherle, Ralph Holond, William Gregory, John Olney, John Suttone, and William Wetenhale, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, William Combys was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Richard Ryche was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty. Fo. 197 b. *Eleccio vic'.*

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain for the year ensuing; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and John Herst, skinner, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; Thomas Chaltone and William Combys, Aldermen, John Norman, John Sturgeon, Geoffrey Feldyng, and Stephen "Forster," Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

[1] From a minute in Journal 3 of the City's Records (fo. 153 b), we learn that on Saturday, 20 Oct., 1442, the Recorder of the City was dispatched to the King to repeal the charter granted to the Tailors, as being prejudicial to the City's liberties.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said feast were presented, admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Wednesday, 11 Oct., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], John Norman, Nicholas Wyfold, Stephen "Foster," and William Chapman nominated for Aldermen of the Ward of Castelbaynard, of whom John Norman, draper, was elected.[1]

Fo. 198 Friday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], in the presence of John Pattesley, Mayor, John Sevenok the Prior of Christchurch, John Bowes, the Recorder, William Estfeld, Knt., Nicholas Wottone, John Reynwelle, John Gedeney, John Welles, John Brokle, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broun, Thomas Wannesford, William Milreth, Thomas Chaltone, John Hathirle, Robert Cloptone, William Gregory, John Olney, John Suttone, Nicholas Yoo, and William Wetenhale, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Robert Cloptone was elected.[2]

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer at Westminster.

Fo. 198 b. Tuesday,[3] 4 Dec., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], inquisition held before Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Sheriffs, in the Chamber of the Guildhall within the Ward of Chepe by oath of John Bolle, Hugh Wiche, John Bale, Robert Horne, John Waldene, John Berstone, John Bracy, John Humbre, Thomas Holme, Edward Warmyngton, John Vache, Richard

[1] Sworn the following day. Journal 3, fo. 97.

[2] It is said that Clopton's election was stoutly opposed by the Tailors in favour of Ralph Holland, a member of their own fraternity; that a riot ensued, and that the ringleaders were committed to Newgate. It has also been suggested that it was owing to the opposition he met with on this occasion that at the close of his year of office he and his brother Aldermen objected to the new charter granted to the Tailors by the King, as being prejudicial to the franchises of the City. *Vide supra*, p. 261 n.; Clode's 'Memorials,' pp. 5, 242-3.

[3] A clerical error for Monday.

Lumley, Richard Horne, and William Berkyng, who say that John Gedney, draper and Alderman, was using and occupying merchandise of woollen cloth and other merchandise, which merchandise Mark Justinian and his foreign associates were also using and occupying, contrary to the statute thereon.

Pro clerico capelle Sc'i Thome supra pontem.

5 Dec., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], ordinance by Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, with the assent of John Herste and Thomas Cooke, the Masters of the work of London Bridge for the time being, that John Seyntjohn, late clerk of the chapel of St. Thomas on London Bridge, who had received an injury whilst engaged elsewhere in the service of the City, which incapacitated him for his work, should receive a weekly pension of 12 pence for life, so that he pray for the City's welfare and laudable prosperity of the Bridge.

Ordinacio Pistor'.

Wednesday, 8 Oct., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], came the Bakers, householders in the City, before Robert Cloptone, the Mayor,[2] and the Aldermen, and presented the following petition:—

"Besekith mekely William Pynder', John Barkeby, Richard Alford, Richard Clarence, William Page, and Richard White, Wardeyns of the Crafte of Bakers, and hem compleyneth of grete defawtes of the servauntis of the Crafte that is to wite that they have on holy dayes a revelyng hall & a drynkyng their by the whych many of hem be not able to do no good werk a daye aftre whereby the howsholders ben gretely hyndryd of here werk Also they have a brotherhode & clothyng theroffe & meny that ben of that clothyng will not werke of lasse than they have gretter wages than they were woned to have of old tyme the which is grete hyndryng to the Crafte Also alle that ben of that clothynge will not come to here Maistoureshows fro satirday after noon till sonday after noon viij or ix of the clokke but if hit be they that ben hyrid to bere bred but for to do no thyng for here Maystirs haue they never so grete nede where as they be hired for the quarter of the

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 238.

[2] There appears to be some mistake here, for Clopton was not elected Mayor until the 13th Oct. why not Dec. 8? clerical error?

yeere for the half yeere or for the hool yeere to do that that longeth to the Craft of Bakers Also if ther be iij or iiij or mo of that clothyng dwellyng with on bakere if eny of hem trespace & the Maister speke to hym theroffe or bidde hym mende hit alle they fortyfieth hym ayenst his Maistir that it may not be amendyd or els sodeynly they partyth out of his service Also they seyen that they will ordeyne that noon of hem shal werke by nyghtis time but for to go to werke by daye & leve by day The which defawtis lith not in the correccion of the said suppliantis Wherfore they besechyn yow of correcc'on of the said defautes after yowre good discrecion."

Thereupon all servants of Bakers were summoned to appear on the 22nd Nov., when they defended their action as follows:—

"Unto right worshipfull & graciouses lordes & soveraignes the Maire and Aldermen of the Cite of London Full mekely & in the most humble wyse shewen & besechen yowre povere servitours Robert Morteyn, Nicholas Rabet, Henry Serche, John Breteyn, William Emylyn, Thomas Clyff, John Bordy, Thomas Mathew, Richard Hille, and alle the company of the servantes Bakeres of the said Citee where as the Wardeyns of the Crafte of Bakeres with ynne the said Citee now late of their evill will to thentente for to hurte youre said besechers han made a suggestion unto you full gracious lordes to the whiche youre said besechers will with youre licence answere from pointe to pointe as here after may appere" :—

First, as to Revelyng Hall, &c., they say that it is nothing new, but that time out of mind the custom had continued on certain days.

Fo. 199. Secondly, as to their brotherhood and clothing and refusal to work except for higher wages, they say that such brotherhood with "hodyng there of" had been used for long time "to the worship of God and engendring of love and for no maner of confederacie ne to no harme of the Crafte in no wise," and few of the Masters had not been members of it at the time they were servants, and that no change had been made in the amount of their wages.

Thirdly, as to servants absenting themselves from their masters' house, they say that "there is noo servaunt of the seid Crafte that shall be suffrid in eny wise to departe homward out of his Maisteres hous in to [*sic*] it be ix or x of the clokke with ynne nyght on the Satirday have thei never so grete nede."

Fourthly, as regards a servant being "fortified" in a trespass by his fellow servants, &c., they say that "if there be eny suche servauntes trespassyng to his Maister it is reasoun that he that so trespassith abye his gilte but not for to disclaundre alle servauntes for the foly of oo mysdoer," for that would be a conspiracy such as they disavow.

Fifthly, as to their alleged intention to refuse to work by night, they desire that those who refuse to work as well by night as by day, as of old accustomed, may be punished, for they had never as a body entertained such an idea.

Lastly, as to the wages taken by them, they are the same as of old, that is to say:—"The Fourner[1] takith be the weke werkyng daye & nyght xvj*d*. For whiche his charge is to sesoun the bred & bake it and if it be lost in his defaute the Maister will sende it into Chepe & to selle iij loves for oo peny which losse the Fournere shal make good to his Maister The Whitehew[2] takith be the weke werkyng day & nyght xiij*d*. For whiche his charge he must weye alle the bred & if it happe of necligence the bred to lak of his weighte The same bred afterward weyen and founde fawty thanne that bred shall be sente into Chepe & ther solde to losse which losse the seid Whitehewe shall answere to his Maister The Sowreour[3] of

[1] The man who takes charge of the oven (*fourn*).

[2] Or "white hewe," probably so called from his cutting up the dough for white?) for making loaves of the required weight.

[3] The man who adds the requisite amount of yeast or leaven ("sour") to render the bread of the proper quality ("sesond"). "Seasonyng the ovyn" by the Fourner is a term found in the *Liber Niger Domus Regis Edw. IV.* For the explanation of these bakers' terms, as well as of other difficulties which have presented themselves in this Calendar, the Editor is indebted to the kind services and extensive knowledge of Mr. J. Hodgkin, F.L.S.

whete bred takith be the weke werking daye & night xij*d*. For whiche he shall see the bred sesond and if it be to sad or to lighte it shall be sent in to Chepe & there solde to losse which losse shall renne only upon the seid Sowreour whiche losses & happes casuelly fallen ofte tymes unto grete hyndryng of yowre seid suppleantes Also everi journey manne is alowed every day & night j*d*. for his drinke & no more Notwithstandyng alle this yitte the Wardeyns of the seid Crafte of Bakeres han' ordeigned that if eny maner servaunt Bakere goo hoome to his wif eny nyght he shalle paye on the morwe to his Maister x*d*. with oute eny redempcion Also thei have ordeigned that if eny servaunt happen to displease his Maister They will sodenly putte hym oute of service though he have not fully be with his Maister ij wekes with oute eny warnyng where thorough the servaunt shall lose oo quarter service and the servaunt shall yeve a half quarter warnyng to the Maister afore his departyng Also full gracious lordes it is to be considerid that the most partie or many of the seid servauntes Bakeres bene Weddid men and for eny nede that ever hem happith they shall not be suffrid to goo to the market eny day ne to be absente oone owre but oonly on the sonday." The petitioners thereon pray a remedy.

The petition having been duly considered, as well as the scandals and inconveniences that had arisen from such private and unlawful Fraternities, established under colour of piety or other fiction, the Mayor and Aldermen decreed that such servants should thenceforth be under the rule and governance of their Masters and of the Wardens of the Mistery of Bakers, and that they should have no clothing or livery.

Fo. 199 b. Writ to the Sheriffs for the election of four citizens to attend a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the day of the Conversion of St. Paul [25 Jan.] next. Witness the King at his Manor of Shene, 3 Dec., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441].[1]

[1] Thereupon there were elected as Knights (*in milites*) for the City, William Estfeld, Knt., and John Bowys, the Recorder, and for the Commonalty, Philip Malpas, draper, and William Cottisbroke, grocer (Journal 3, fo. 108 b). The return is not recorded in the Letter-Book.

Writ to John Pattesley, late Mayor, to make a return to the Barons of the Exchequer of the names of all merchants, alien and strangers, who have resided in the City during the year ending on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude last past [28 Oct.], the names of their hosts and other particulars, pursuant to the late statute.[1] Witness J[ohn] Fray[2] at Westminster, 11 Dec., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441].

7 February, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441-2], came John Gerveys, "iremongere," before Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that, whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Mistery of "Iremongere" *temp.* William Cambridge, Mayor, and John "Bedrenden," Chamberlain, viz., on the 14th August, anno 9 Henry V. [A.D. 1421], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery or art of Drapers and not that of "Iremongers." He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Mistery of Drapers. His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Mistery.

15 Feb., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441-2], John Huett, "joynour," discharged by Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 200.

23 Feb., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441-2], Richard, son of Simon Astone, late flecchcr, admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Flecchers and sworn *temp.* Robert Otle, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, had long been using, and was now using, the mistery or art of "Talughchandlers," and not the art of Flecchers. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art or Mistery of "Talugh-chandlers." His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Art.

5 March, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441-2], ordinances by the Common Council that the Mayor should take with him four Aldermen and four Commoners and the Masters of the Bridge to treat with the Rector and parishioners of the Church of

[1] *Vide supra*, p. 238.

[2] Chief Baron of the Exchequer formerly the City's Recorder.

Wolchirche lest in building their church they should obstruct the light of the City's house called "le Stokkys," and to compensate the said Rector and parishioners in some way in respect of the said building.[1]

10 March, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441–2], the custody of £7 belonging to John, son of Adam Coif, apprentice of William Heyden, "hatter," committed by Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to the said William Heyden, until the end of his apprentice's term of service, viz., seven years. Sureties, viz., Thomas Gresham, "hatter," John Chateris, "haberdassher," William Reynold, "wexchaundeler," and Thomas Garnam, "hurer."

Afterwards, viz., on the 3rd Nov., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], came the above orphan, now of age, before Simon Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for the above patrimony.

Fo. 200 b. Friday, 13 April, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], came Humphrey Hayford, goldsmith, before Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, having married, with the consent of John Paddesley, the late Mayor, and the Aldermen, Agnes, daughter of John Admonde, late mercer, and acknowledged that he had received from John Chichele, the Chamberlain, the sum of £200 belonging to his wife, which had been brought into Court by John Asshe.[2]

Wednesday, 18 April, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], came Roger Heysaunt, draper, who had married in like manner Johanna, another daughter of the said John Admonde, and acknowledged satisfaction for a similar sum.

Wednesday, 2 May, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], a petition to the Common Council by Thomas Cooke and John Herst, Masters of the Bridge, setting forth that divers persons who had "gersoned"[3] certain tenements and mansions belonging to the Bridge at a low price had recently disposed of the same, without licence or assent of the said Wardens, to others,

[1] An agreement between the parties was arrived at, and is recorded *infra*, p. 272.

[2] Cf. *supra*, p. 212.

[3] Acquired by payment of a fine (*Gersuma*).

"takyng grete availe þ'of yeerly to hem self & netheles levyng alle þe reparacions þ'of on the seid brigge to grete coste & charge to þe same brigge and grete amenusyng of þe commoditees þ'of and also ayenst þe custume of þe same brigge," and praying that it may be ordained that thenceforth no such alienations may be made without the licence of the said Wardens, under penalty of forfeiture of title; but rather that composition should be made with the Wardens for the time being in order that "the availe or encrece þ'of might turne to the use & reeleevyng of the grete nede of the seid brigge that contynnuelly axeth eide and attendaunce withouten which it is like to fall to grete myschief that god defende." Their prayer granted.

In the same Common Council it was agreed that all constables of the City should thenceforth be guaranteed any expenses incurred in the execution of their office.

Petition by the Commonalty of the City to the Common Council held on Tuesday, 24 July, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], praying that the statute made anno 50 Edward III.,[1] and the ordinance made *temp.* Robert Chicheley,[2] Mayor, touching brokers, may be enforced, and that thenceforth any stranger meddling with "corectage" or brocage be made to forfeit £20, and that any denizen meddling with the same, except he be one of the 24 persons presented by the crafts and admitted and sworn by the Mayor, shall incur the same penalty; and further, that due inquisition be made four times a year concerning all brokers, strangers, and denizens who act contrary to the said statute and ordinance. Their prayer granted. Fo. 201. *Ordinacio Abrocar'.*

Writ to the Sheriffs to make proclamation of the statute passed in the last Parliament at Westminster touching the resistance that may be offered to the King's Purveyors or "Achatours" who take goods without payment. Witness the King at Westminster, 24 April, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442]. Fo. 201 b.

[1] Referring probably to letters patent recorded in 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 53.

[2] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 264.

Stat. 20 Henry VI., cap. viii.,[1] set out, being the statute referred to in the above writ.

Stat. 36 Edward III., cap. vi., forbidding private individuals to seize victuals, &c., or to buy the same from willing sellers without immediate payment.[2]

Writ to Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, to make a return by a certain day, to the Barons of the Exchequer, of the names of merchant strangers residing in the City during the year ending on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude last [28 Oct.], the names of their hosts, &c. Witness J[ohn] Fray at Westminster, 10 May, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442].

Fo. 202. *Serchers de Berebruers.*

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs bidding them assist Richard Lounde and William Veysy in their office as Searchers of "Berebrewers," to which they had been appointed by letters patent of the 29th January last past. Witness the King at Westminster, 21 Nov., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441].

Tuesday, 29 May, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], ordinance by Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, and William Estfeld, Knt., Nicholas Wottone, John Reynwelle, John Gedney, John Welles, Stephen Broun, John Pattesley, William Melreth, Thomas Chaltone, John Hatherle, William Gregory, John Olney, Nicholas Yeo, and William Wetenhale, Aldermen, that Thomas Holgreve, who had been a Serjeant of the Mayor for twenty years and more, should for his good services occupy the mansion over the middle gate of the Court (*Curie*) of the Guildhall for life, as formerly held by John Pencriche.[3]

Ordinance by the same that those to whom the Gates of the City had been granted should keep them in repair.

In the same congregation Richard Power, "squiere," was elected the Mayor's Swordbearer on the same terms as the office had been held by John Pencriche.

Fo. 202 b. *Amicicia int' Cit' Baion' et Cit' London' tractat'.*

At a Common Council held on Tuesday, 5 June, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], in the Chamber of the Guildhall, it was declared that divers controversies between the Mayors and citizens of the

[1] 'Statutes at Large' (ed. 1758), i. 601.

[2] *Id.*, i. 321. Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 294.

[3] Cf. *supra*, pp. 57-8.

town of Bayonne and the City of London had at length been settled by the assistance of Stephen Foster, John Melborne, Robert Horne, William Beufis (or Beaufitz), William Kerver, John Felde, and William Overe, as shown by an indenture produced, sealed with the seal of the City of Bayonne, in the following terms.[1]

The indenture having been read, it was asked on behalf of the City of Bayonne that its counterpart, sealed with the seal of the City of London, might be delivered to the Mayor of Bayonne, and it was granted.

It was further agreed that the above-mentioned persons who had succeeded in effecting the treaty should receive a portion of the tolls paid on merchandise passing between the City and Bayonne to the amount of 100 marks and no more.

The above indenture was delivered to John Chichele, the Chamberlain, by Richard Barnet, 9 July, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442].

12 July, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], the guardianship of Johanna and Thomas, children of Robert Breton, late "bowiere," together with their patrimony, committed by Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Thomas Dorchester, "irmonger." Sureties, viz., William "Marw," Robert Curle, Richard Werbeltone, and Thomas Nykke. Fo. 203.

3 Aug., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], writ sent to the Mayor and Sheriffs bidding them not to place Ralph Hogman, grocer, on assizes, &c., if he be more than seventy years of age, that age having been prescribed by the Common Council as the limit for such service, and to restore any distress they may have taken on that account. Writ dated 14 May, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442]. *Exon'ac' ab assis' etc.*

Whereupon it was ordained that the said Ralph should be discharged from serving on assizes, &c.

[1] The commercial treaty which is here set out will be found printed by Delpit (*op. cit.*, pp. 260-3), although its accuracy leaves something to be desired. The Bayonne portion of the indenture is recorded as bearing date 1 Sept., 1441.

Fo. 203 b. Indenture whereby John Skiptone, parson of the church of our lady of Wolchirch beside the Stokkes of London; John Bray, chandler, and Thomas Cook the younger, draper, churchwardens; and John Sturgeon, mercer, John Humbre, brewer, Henry Bray, draper, Richard Hakedye, grocer, and John Frost, mercer, parishioners of the same—in consideration of a competent sum of money paid to them by Thomas Cook the elder, draper, and John Herst, skinner, Masters of London Bridge (to which the aforesaid Stokkes and revenues thereof appertain), towards the expense of rebuilding the said church, it "beyng now old & feble"—covenant to pull down their vestry adjoining the Stokkes at the east end of the church and to erect a new north wall for the church at a distance of fifteen feet from the Stokkes, so as not to obstruct the lights of the market. They further grant the easement of a common footway from the east end of the said Stokkes and thence under the parsonage to the "Pultrie." Dated 19 April, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1422].[1]

Fo. 204. 18 Aug., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], another writ similar to that recorded *supra* (fo. 203) for the discharge of Walter Adam from serving on assizes, &c., if he be over seventy years of age. Writ dated 4 July.

12 July, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], the guardianship of William, son of Robert Breton, late "bowier," together with his patrimony, committed by Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Thomas Nykke, "Irmonger." Sureties, viz., William "Marow," Robert Curle, Richard Warbeltone, and Thomas Nykke [*sic*].

6 Nov., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came the above orphan before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony.

Fo. 204 b. Monday, 13 Aug., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], came Dame

[1] It was probably after seeing this record that Stow wrote: "This church [*i.e.*, St. Mary Woolchurch] is reasonably fayre and large, and was lately new builded, by licence graunted in the 20 of *Henry* the Sixt, with condition to bee builded 15 foote from the Stockes market for sparing of light to the same Stockes" ('Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 226).

Johanna Large, widow and executrix of Robert Large,[1] and Thomas Staundone, Stephen Stichemersch, and Ralph Strete, her co-executors, and brought into Court the sum of £100 held by the said Robert Large in trust for Richard, son of Robert Coventre, mercer, who had died under age.

Afterwards, viz., on the 17th Aug., the same year, came Thomas Gosse, mercer, executor of the said Richard [*sic*], and asked that the money might be delivered to him, which was done, no objector having appeared after proclamation made.

Extract from the will of the above Robert Coventre, dated 27 July, A.D. 1442, whereby he expresses his wish to be buried in the church of St. Mary le Bow, and leaves one third of his property to "Mergaret" his mother, another third to Adam his brother, and Johanna and Alice his sisters, and the residue to be disposed of by Thomas Gosse, his executor, for pious uses.

Friday, 8 June, 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], came William Stranxhill and Richard Alley, skinners, executors of John Fanne, skinner, and also William Narbourgh, John Hardy, Thomas Goldwyn, and William Pembrigge, skinners, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £80, for the repayment of that sum into the Chamberlain's Court, in trust for Thomas, Ralph, and Johanna, children of John Fanne, as soon as they come of age.

Fo. 205. *Eleccio Vic'.*

Friday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], in the presence of Robert Cloptone, Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder,[2] William Estfeld, John Reynwelle, John Gedney, Stephen Broun, John Paddesley, William Milreth, John Hatherle, Ralph Holond, William Gregory, John Olney, John Suttone, John Norman, Nicholas Wyfold, and William Combes, Aldermen, and a very great number of Commoners summoned

[1] Sheriff 1430-1; Mayor 1439-40; died 24 April, 1441 (Beaven's 'Aldermen,' p. 90). He does not appear to have been either a Knight or Baronet, so that the title of *domina*, here applied to his widow, is somewhat strange. In the same way, however, the wife of Roger Acheley (Mayor 1511-12) assumed the title of *Dame*, without any apparent reason (Beaven, p. 256 n.).

[2] Elected 14 July, 1442, when the late Recorder (John Bowes) was granted a pension of 20 marks, being infirm. Journal 3, fo. 141.

to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Thomas Bemond was elected one of the Sheriffs for the year ensuing by the Mayor, and Richard Nordorn was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and John Herste, skinner, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and John Norman, Nicholas Wyfold, Aldermen, and Geoffrey Feldyng, Stephen Foster, William Cottisbrok, and John Milborne, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Exon'ac' ab assisis. 26 Sept., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], Nicholas Birchillis, tailor, discharged by Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'ac' ab assisis. 8 Oct., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], William Gerveys, "wynedraver,"[1] similarly discharged for like cause.

Writ to Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, to make a return to the Barons of the Exchequer of the names of all merchants, alien and strangers, residing in the City between Easter last and the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.] next ensuing, the names of their hosts, and other particulars. Witness J[ohn] Fray at Westminster, 21 Oct., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442].

Fo. 205 b. *Br'e R' pro electione Maioris.* Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to make proclamation forbidding any one to attend the election of a Mayor unless especially summoned, recent elections having given rise to much disturbance,[2] but such election is to be made by the Aldermen and other of the more discreet and powerful citizens as of old accustomed, and any Mayor otherwise elected would be refused

[1] Winedrawer—one who conveyed wine from the riverside to vintners' houses.

[2] Alluding no doubt to the disturbance that had taken place at Cloptone's election, as already noted *supra*, p. 262.

admission by the Barons of the Exchequer. Witness the King at Eltham, 10 Oct., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442].

The above writ was proclaimed throughout the City on the 12th October according to custom, and pursuant thereto there were summoned by the Mayor all those who were of the Common Council[1] of the City and certain other citizens, powerful and discreet, from the several Wards to take part in the election of a Mayor on St. Edward's Day [13 Oct.]. On which day all those summoned were called by name at the gate of the Hall, and they only were allowed to enter the Hall. Thereupon, after the celebration of Mass, according to the ordinance made *temp.* John Wodecok, Mayor, in the presence of Robert Cloptone, the Mayor, John Sevenoke the Prior of Christchurch, Robert "Davners," the Recorder, William Estfeld, John Reynwelle, John Gedney, John Brokle, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broun, Thomas Wandesford, John Pattesle, William Milreth, John "Hathirle," Thomas Chaltone, John Olney, William Gregory, John Suttone, William Wetenhale, William Combes, John Norman, and Nicholas Wifold, Aldermen—John "Hatherle" was elected Mayor for the year ensuing.

Afterwards, viz., on Sunday the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Indulgence granted by Pope Eugenius to the Mayor and Aldermen, at their request, for them and their successors and their wives to have a movable altar (*altare portatile*)[2] whereat to Fo. 206.

[1] In 1376, when the Common Council was elected by the Misteries or Livery Companies, those so elected, *and no others*, were to be summoned to the election of Mayors and Sheriffs ('Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 39). In 1384, when the Council came to be elected by the Wards, its members were associated with other "sufficient" men of the Wards specially summoned for such elections (*id.*, p. 241). Nevertheless, elections of Mayors appear to have continued to be made by an "immense Commonalty" without any specific mention of the Common Council down to this year (1442). The Council was again specially summoned in 1443 (*infra*, p. 288), but not, apparently, in the case of subsequent elections recorded in this Letter-Book.

[2] This was not an unusual indulgence. See Orby Shipley, 'Glossary of Ecclesias. Terms,' *s.v.*; Amundesham, 'Annl. Monast. S. Albani,' i. 161.

hold Mass and other services in private, without bell ringing and with bated breath and before break of day, in places under interdict. Dated at Florence, 10 Kal. August (23 July), A.D. 1442.

18 Dec., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], petition to the Mayor and Aldermen by John Croxton and John Hardy, masons and sworn "vieweres" of the City, praying to be discharged from serving on juries, &c., as their time was so much taken up by the duties of their office and also by "a grete werk þ^t they have take spedely for to make at Ledenhall of London for the comyn wele and profit of this Citee."[1] Their prayer granted.

Fo. 206 b.

Lez Wayt' de Citie.

Thursday, 15 Nov., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], petition to the Common Council by the City's Waits as follows:—

"Un to our full honourables Maisters right wyse & discrete persones of the Co'e Counseill in þe Citee of London Besechen full mekely your humble servauntes John Tassell, William Raumpayne, William Fegge, Richard Kendale w^t other v. of her felowshippe Waytes of the seid Citee that how Waytes of other Citees & townes han' here lyvere & clothyng by which they ben know to their soveraignes & maisters And it is so þ^t your seid servauntes ben nat of power to continue in her servise w^toute your gracious help and supportacion So plese it un to your wise discrecions the premisses considered by þadvise of the Mair & Aldremen of þe seid Citee with your goode will & assent to ordein & graunt þ^t yowre seid besechers may have the armes of þe seid Citee.[2] And yerely onys her clothyng which woll be worshippe to hem & to yew & to alle þe seid Citee And þan your seid servauntes woll abide with yow for terme of her lives And ellis it lith not in her power to do service as hem aught to doo."

The said prayer granted on condition (1) that each of the Waytes hold office during the pleasure of the Mayor and Aldermen; (2) that they attend the Mayor and Aldermen when specially summoned; (3) that any vacancy should be

[1] Referring, perhaps, to the proposed erection of a common granary at the Leadenhall. *Vide infra*, fos. 218 b, 229 b. Cf. Stow's 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 153-4, 266.

[2] An early mention of the City's arms, the earliest apparently being in April, 1381, when an alteration was made in the Mayoralty Seal, 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 164-5.

filled up by the advice of the Mayor for the time being; (4) that each one shall take a suitable oath at the discretion of the Mayor; and (5) that the following nine[1] persons should execute the office, viz., John Tassell, William Figge, William Rampayn, John Wikes, senior, John Wykes, junior, Richard Wykes, Thomas Aleys, Richard Porter, and Richard Kendale.

Custod'. 9 Jan., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442–3], the guardianship of Anne, Alexander, and Grace, children of Alexander Anne, late Recorder of the City, together with their patrimony, committed by John Hatherle, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to William Furnyvale, grocer, who married Alice, the mother of the said orphans. Sureties, viz., John Parker, "brewer," John Bartelot, "netter," William Pakysman, ... and Simon Whithede, "wexchaundeler."

Fo. 207. 12 Jan., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442–3], William Wrothe, "vinter," discharged by John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Transmutac' ab una Arte in al'. 10 Jan., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442–3], came Thomas, son of John Nyghtyngale, of Dunmowe, co. Essex, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that, whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Glovers, *temp.* Robert Cloptone, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 16th April, anno 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442], he had long used, and was still using, the mistery of Pouche-makers, and not that of Glovers. He prayed, therefore, to be

[1] The City Waits being musicians whose business was to play before the Mayor and Aldermen on festive occasions, their number appears at this time to have followed the number of the Muses. In later years their number was reduced. In 1789 there were eight, and so remained until 1802, when their place was taken by seven City Trumpeters (Rep. 206, fo. 449). This number was maintained until 1854, when an order was made by the General Purposes Committee that vacancies as they occurred were not to be filled up. The number of the City Trumpeters at the present day is four. The name "Wait" is probably to be ascribed to Fr. *gait, guaite*, a watch or ward, the watchmen of the City being also known as Waits, and originally carrying a trumpet to raise alarm. (See 'Memorials,' Introd., p. xxi, note 10.) The word is only preserved at the present day in the English language for the Waits who at Christmas time occupy the streets and render night hideous.

admitted into the freedom in the said Mistery of Pouchemakers. His prayer granted at the instance of Masters and good men of the said Mistery.

Custod'. 19 Jan., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442–3], came Richard Gardener, salter, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and entered into bond in the sum of £10 with John Chichele, the Chamberlain.

The same day the guardianship of William, son of John Ryngstede, late salter, together with his patrimony of £10, was committed by the said Mayor, the Aldermen, and the Chamberlain, to the above Richard "Gardyner," who married Alice, the orphan's mother. Sureties, viz., Thomas Beaumond, Henry Bell, William Edward, and Hugh Riche.

Fo 207 b. 8 Feb., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442–3], Roger Broun, tailor, discharged by John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Writ to the Bishop of London, his Officers and Commissaries, setting forth that Matilda Dorchestre, late wife of Robert Bretoun, William atte Wode, and William Cotwille, executors of the said Robert, had brought into the Chamber of the Guildhall, by order of Robert Cloptone, late Mayor, in accordance with the immemorial custom of the City, the goods belonging to William, Thomas, Johanna, and a certain Robert, then deceased, children of the aforesaid Robert, to be kept in trust for the said orphans, which goods had been committed by the Mayor and Aldermen to the custody of Thomas Nyk, by sufficient surety; but the above orphan William intended, as it was said, to bring an action against the said executors for the recovery of his goods, being still under age, before the Bishop in the Court Christian, to the prejudice of the City's custom, and no little hurt to the executors. The Bishop is, therefore, forbidden to hear the plea, and ordered to annul any proceedings that may have already taken place. Witness the King at Westminster, 10 Feb., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442–3].

Fo. 208. William Steyd and Thomas Quyne appointed Wyndrawers in the City for life, to enjoy the exclusive right of carrying all wines coming to the City to the wharves of the owners of

such wine, charging no more for carriage than of old accustomed. [No date.]

Thursday, 31 Jan. [*s.a.*], came William, son of William Crowmer, late Alderman, before the Mayor, the Recorder, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged that he had received from John Chichele, the Chamberlain, the sum of 500 marks which had been deposited in a certain chest in the City Treasury by his father's executors for delivery to him on his coming of age.

27 Feb., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442–3], came Thomas Staunton, Richard Riche, Thomas Walsyngham, Geoffrey Boleyn, and Thomas Stele (or Style) into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £1,000 for the payment by the said Thomas Staunton of £500 to the said Chamberlain when Thomas and Richard, sons of Robert Large, late Alderman, shall respectively come of age.

Afterwards, viz., on the 5th December, 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], came the above Richard, son of Robert Large, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for the above sum of £1,000 which accrued to him by the death of Thomas and Robert his brothers, whilst under age. The above Chamberlain and recognitors are therefore quit.

8 April, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came William, son of John Lungley, late of Ripon, co. York, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Chamberlain, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Pouchmakers (*Bursarii*), *temp.* William Cambregge, Mayor, and John Bederenden, Chamberlain, viz., on the 6th Sept., 9 Henry V. [A.D. 1421], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery of "Lethirsellers," and not the mistery of Pouchmakers. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the Art of "Lethirsellers." His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the Mistery of "Lethirsellers." Fo. 208 b.

Transmutac' ab una arte etc.

27 Feb., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442-3], came John Donhed before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Irmongers [*date not recorded*], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery of Taverners (*Pandoxatorum*), and not the mistery of Irmongers. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the Art of Taverners. His prayer granted at the instance of the Masters and good men of the said Mistery of Taverners.

11 April, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Dame (*domina*)[1] Johanna Large, widow of Robert Large, late Alderman, John Gedney, Alderman, Geoffrey Feldyng, Hugh Wyche, and Thomas "Batoille," mercers, into the Court of the lord the King, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into a bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £1,000.

Custod' orphan'.

The same day the guardianship of Thomas, son of the above Robert Large, together with his patrimony of £1,000, was committed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain to the above Dame Johanna Large, she giving a bond in £1,000 as security.

Fo. 209

11 April, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Dame Johanna Large, John Sturgeon, Alexander Orable, John Chirche, and John Gedney, Alderman, into the Court of the lord the King, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into a bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £1,000.

Custod' orphan'.

The same day the guardianship of Richard, son of Robert Large, late Alderman, together with his patrimony of £1,000, was committed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain to the said Dame Johanna, until the said orphan reached the age of twenty-four years.

[1] As to the assumption of this title by the widow of Robert Large, see note *supra*, p. 273. She afterwards married another Alderman, viz., John Gedney, and styled herself "Dame" Johanna Gedney, although Gedney was never knighted (*vide infra*, p. 282). Large died in 1441, and Gedney in 1449.

On the 26 Aug., 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], came the above Richard, being twenty-four years of age, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony of £1,000.

17 Jan., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442-3], came Stephen Stichemersch, Stephen Foster, Thomas Barry, Richard Warbultone, and John Ryggis, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £500.

Custod' orphan'.

The same day the guardianship of Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Large, late Alderman, together with her patrimony of £500, was committed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain to the above Stephen Stichemersch, on the above surety.

Fo. 209 b.

15 April, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Katherine, widow of Robert Otewey, late brewer, William Taverner, William Pykeryng, Henry Halywell, Bartholomew Bremson, and John Baker, into the Court of the lord the King, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £500.

Custod' orphan'.

The same day the guardianship of Robert, son of Robert Otewey, late brewer, together with the sum of £20 and divers chattels, comprising (*inter alia*) a coverlet of green colour, worked with white flageolets[1] (*cum albis luris*); a feather bed and pair of sheets; a "basilard" with pendent girdle, harnessed with silver; a gold seal engraved with "Pynsons";[2] a silver ring, engraved with the three Kings of Cologne,[3] and a mazer cup (*murra*) with bands of silver-gilt—also the guardianship of Elizabeth, daughter of the said Robert Otewey, together with a like sum and divers chattels, comprising a

[1] Or shepherd's pipes. *Loure*= *instrument de musique, la grande musette.* See Godefroy's Dict., *s.v.* That this is probably the correct interpretation is confirmed by mention being made shortly afterwards of another coverlet worked with white lambs.

[2] Pincers (?).

[3] Or the three Magi who came from the East to worship the infant Jesus, their names, according to mediæval legend, being Jaspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. Their bones are supposed to lie in Cologne Cathedral, where they were the object of frequent pilgrimages. Their names were sometimes inscribed on mazers. These were known as "Three Kings" cups. See paper on 'English mediæval drinking bowls called Mazers,' by W. H. St. John Hope, F.S.A. (*Archæol.*, vol. 50).

coverlet, with tester of green colour, worked with white lambs (*lambes*), &c.—committed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain to Katherine Otewey, widow of the said Robert.

Fo. 210. 14 May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came John, orphan son of John Knyght, draper, being of full age, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for a part of his patrimony paid to him by John Chichele, the Chamberlain.

24 May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Richard Stowe before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented certain letters patent dated 22 Oct., 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1440], discharging the said Richard from serving on juries, or acting as Collector, Assessor, Constable or Bailiff, &c., for the rest of his life. Order by the Mayor and Aldermen thereon.

26 Aug., 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], came Richard, son of Robert Large, late Alderman, being twenty-four years of age, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Gregory, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged that he had received from Dame Johanna Gedney, widow, late wife of the said Robert Large, the sum of £1,000 accruing to the said Richard by the death of Thomas his brother.

Fo. 210b. 14 May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Richard Fobell,
Custod'. Thomas Wellys, Richard Gylis, Thomas Lyon, Henry Marchaunt, Richard Rede, and Thomas Maliard into the Court of the lord the King, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into a bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £10.

The same day the guardianship of Richard, son of William Fulby, otherwise called "Trumpyngdone," late cordwainer, together with his patrimony of £10, committed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain to Richard Fobell, he finding surety as above.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs to cause proclamation to be
✝ made forbidding the carrying of arms in the street (except in certain prescribed cases), and bidding hostelers to disarm their

guests, &c. Witness the King at Westminster, 26 May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443].

31 May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Alan Johnson, grocer, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented certain letters patent dated at the King's manor of Eltham, 28 Feb., 18 Henry VI. [A.D. 1439-40], discharging him from serving on juries and filling various offices. Order by the Mayor and Aldermen thereon. Fo. 211. *Exempc' ab assis'.*

13 June, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Robert, son of Robert Mayheu, late of Shordich, co. Middlesex, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and asked for his share of the sum of 50 marks brought into Court by his father's executors. Thereupon it being proved by John at Hille, John Waleys, Richard Harry, and William Mayhew of Enfeld, that the petitioner was of full age, and that Martin, Cristina, and John, children of the said Robert Mayheu, were dead under age.....[*ends abruptly*].

4 June, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came William Bostone, goldsmith, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and produced letters patent dated at Westminster, 6 May, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], discharging him from serving on juries and filling divers offices. Order by the Mayor and Aldermen thereon.

25 June, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], John Bagworth, saddler, discharged by the said Mayor and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 211 b.

9 July, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], Simon Gauge, skinner, similarly discharged for like cause.

9 July, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Antony Astell, John Astell, Thomas Norwode, and Baldewin Butler into the Court of the lord the King, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 20 marks.

The same day Michael, son of Michael Randolf, late haberdasher, was committed by the above Mayor and Aldermen as apprentice to Antony Astell, fishmonger, for a term of nine

years, to whom also was entrusted the orphan's patrimony on the above security.

Fo. 212. Saturday, 13 July, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Thomas, son of Thomas Eyre, late draper, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, being of full age, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony received from Robert Kyngison and John Bekyngham, executors of Johanna, the mother of the said orphan.

21 July, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Robert Hunesle, Thomas Holme, Thomas Barnard, William Burtone, and John Edward into the Court of the lord the King, before the said Mayor and Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £10.

The same day the guardianship of John, Margaret, and Alice, children of Thomas Grym, late fishmonger, together with their patrimony, committed by John Hatherle, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and the Chamberlain to Robert Hunesle, fishmonger (who married the said orphan's mother), on his giving the above security.

Fo. 212 b. Saturday, 3 Aug., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Henry Mersche, David Brounyng, William Baker, Thomas White, and other citizens [not named], who were acquainted with Henry, son of William Miles, late taverner, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and testified that the said Henry was 23 years of age before he died, and was thus legally capable of making a will.

13 Aug., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Godard Pulham, Richard Riche, John Maldone, Robert Bertyn, and Stephen Marchaunt into the Court of the lord the King, before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £93 6*s.* 8*d.*

Custod' orphan'. The same day the guardianship of Peter, Johanna, Alice, Margaret, Anne, John, and Thomas, children of John Walpole, late "bracier," together with their patrimony of £93 6*s.* 8*d.*, was committed by John Hatherle, the Mayor, the Aldermen,

and the Chamberlain to Godard Pulham, draper, who married Agnes, the said orphans' mother.

19 Aug., 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], Richard Cauce, saddler, discharged by John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 213.

The same day John Gerland, carpenter, similarly discharged for like cause.

Tuesday, 3 Sept., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], Thomas Lay, tailor, similarly discharged for like cause.

17 Sept., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], William Ponchoun, girdler, similarly discharged for like cause.

Wednesday, 16 Oct., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came Thomas Purchas, "turnour," before John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented letters patent whereby the King granted to him many liberties, upon consideration of which, and also on account of his increasing old age, the said Thomas was discharged by the said Mayor and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c.

Monday, 21 Oct., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], Thomas Trille, cutler, discharged by the said Mayor and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Whereas it was ordained by the Mayor and Aldermen, *temp.* Stephen Broun, Mayor, anno 17 Henry VI., that all tanned hides brought for sale to the City should be warehoused and sold in a certain Seld near the Guildhall, and not elsewhere, to the intent that such hides should be viewed and assayed by officers appointed by the Chamberlain before being exposed for sale, so that the said Chamberlain might take forfeitures and fines for the use of the City; and whereas afterwards, at a Common Council held on Friday, 17 Sept., anno 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], it was, for divers reasons, ordained by Thomas Catteworth, the Mayor,[2] the Aldermen and Commonalty, that the said Seld should be removed from the Guildhall to some other suitable place, and that the fees and fines for seldage and assay should Fo. 213 b. *Ordinacio pro Selda Corior'.*

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 227.

[2] There appears to be some mistake here, for Catworth was not elected Mayor until the 13th Oct., 1443 (*infra*, p. 288).

be let to ferm for £10 a year for a term not exceeding 10 or 12 years, which ordinance had not hitherto been put into execution—it was now ordained, viz., on Friday, 9 Feb., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452-3], by Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, that the said ordinance should be executed at the discretion of the Chamberlain.

Fo. 214. *Eleccio Vicecom'.*

Saturday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], a great number of inferior citizens who had not been summoned entered the gates of the Hall of the Guildhall through the negligence of the gate-keepers, for the election of Sheriffs and other officers, contrary to the custom of the City. Whereupon, the customary proclamation having been made for all persons who had not been summoned to depart, only a very few left; and the cause of the meeting having been explained by the Recorder, as is the custom, John Hatherle, the Mayor, in the presence of John Reynwelle, John Gedney, Henry Frowyk, John Paddesle, William Melreth, William Gregory, John Olney, Nicholas Yeo, William Wetenhale, William Combes, and John Norman, Aldermen, nominated Nicholas Wyfold, Alderman, to be one of the Sheriffs for the year ensuing on behalf of himself and the Aldermen ;[1] and then the said Mayor and Aldermen immediately mounted to the upper Chambers, leaving the Commonalty to make their own election as accustomed. Thereupon, the question being put by the Common Clerk of the City, who was then acting for the Common Pleader,[2] John Norman, Alderman, was elected the other Sheriff for the year ensuing. Moreover, when the Commonalty were asked about the Chamberlain for the year

[1] *Nomine suo et Aldermannorum.* This appears to be the first (if not the only) occasion where the Aldermen are recorded as jointly nominating a Sheriff with the Mayor. The Aldermen are not mentioned in the record of the election in Journal 4, fo. 5 b.

[2] Another name, at this period, for the Common Serjeant; although in the sixteenth century the official known as Common Pleader was distinct from the Common Serjeant. See the appointment of Roger Cholmeley (who never was Common Serjeant) as one of the Common Pleaders. Letter-Book N, fo. 76.—*N.B.* The note to the Oath of the Common Serjeant in 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' p. 196, is not quite accurate.

ensuing, many declared their votes in favour of John Chichele, the Chamberlain of the previous year, whilst many of the more powerful citizens withheld their votes; but the greatest number of the Commonalty, with loud voice and uplifted hands, clamoured "Cotisbrok, Cotisbrok." The matter being reported to the Mayor and Aldermen, they remonstrated with the Commonalty for the slight they had passed upon John Chichele, who had always served them well, and whose diligence and probity had always been acknowledged by the City Auditors, and the City Serjeants were ordered to go down and see if some had voted without being summoned. They certified the Mayor that there was a large number of poor citizens who had not been summoned, and who endeavoured to overwhelm the votes of the better class. Thereupon the Mayor and Aldermen, as men of seniority, wisdom, and substance (*ut viri senes sapientes et solidi*), caused examination to be made of the written customs of the City, when there was discovered a writ of Edward II., recorded in Letter-Book D, fo. iv, to the effect that elections of Mayors and Sheriffs should be made by the more notable citizens, to the exclusion of others.[1] The Mayor therefore gave orders for all those, who had not been summoned, to depart, and that the election should be made by those who had been summoned, according to custom. Thereupon, the question being put, John Chichele was nominated Chamberlain with the unanimous consent of the Mayor and Aldermen.

There were also elected then and there as Wardens of London Bridge Thomas Cook, senior, and John Herst, skinner; and Nicholas Wyfold and John Olney, Aldermen, William Cottisbrok, John Milborne, John Derby, and Thomas Davy, Commoners, were elected City Auditors for the year ensuing.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

[1] 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' p. 26.

Fo. 214 b. Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs touching the mode of electing a Mayor similar to that recorded *supra*, fo. 205 b. Witness the King at Westminster, 8 Oct., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443].

The above writ duly proclaimed on the 12th October, and pursuant thereto there were summoned by the Mayor all those who were of the Common Council[1] of the City and certain other powerful and discreet citizens from the several Wards for the election of a Mayor on St. Edward's Day [13 Oct.], on which day those that were summoned were called by name at the gate of the Hall, and they only were allowed to enter the Hall. Thereupon, after Mass, in the presence of John Hatherle, the Mayor, John Sevenoke, Prior of Christchurch, Robert "Danvers" the Recorder, William Estfeld, Knt., Nicholas Wotton, John Reynwelle, John Gedney, John Brokle, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broun, Thomas Wandesforde, John Pattesle, William Melreth, Thomas Chaltone, Robert Cloptone, Ralph Holand, John Olney, John Suttone, Nicholas Yeo, William Combes, William Wetenhale, John Norman, and Nicholas Wyfold, Aldermen, and with their will and assent, Thomas Catworth, by the aid of the Holy Spirit (*per viam Spiritus Sancti*), was elected Mayor for the year ensuing.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 215. Writ to John "Adderle,"[2] late Mayor, to make a return of the names, &c., of merchants, alien and strangers, residing and trading in the City since the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], anno 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1442]. Witness J[ohn] Fray at Westminster, 3 Nov., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443].

Saturday, 14 Dec., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], Henry Bovyntone, tailor, discharged by the Mayor and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

22 July, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], a petition presented to the Common Council in the following terms :—

[1] *Vide supra*, p. 275 n.

[2] Mistake for "Atherle" or "Hatherle."

Pulters.

"Please it to the honurable lord the Maire and to our Worchipfull soveranes the Aldermen of the Citee of London to have tendre considerac'on of the grete and noyous and grevous hurt which that long tyme come and allway cometh to the comon people of thys Citee and many other as wele lordes and ladies of this reaume as all other people comyng and passyng by the pultrie of this Citee biside the stokkes and all other pultrie in the principal stretes and weyes of this Citee thurgh the evel rule and demenyng of the pulters kepyng wythin hem Swannes gees heronsewes[1] and other pultrie wherof the ordure and standyng of hem is of grete stenche and so evel savour that it causeth grete and parlous infectyng of the people and long hath done which hath oft tyme bene compleyned of as well by lordes and ladies as by neyghburghs and many other Which pulters myght purvey and have houses and places in oute weyes nygh London Wall and elleswere in this Citee kepying ther her said pultrye and towchyng other pultrie as capons hennes or chekens that they must have nere home that the ordure of hem myght be voided oute of her houses and forthwyth oute of the stretes twies in the week and that in due tymes whan fewe people passe by Of which matiers as right grete nede is hit please your ryght wyse discrec'ons to ordeine and purveie remedie for the comon welfare of all the people of this Citee and of all repairyng ther to in way of charite."

Fo. 215 b.

Be it remembered that the following ordinances (touching assay of leather) were exhibited before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen on the 18th Nov., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], by John Chichele, the Chamberlain, and because it was testified by Stephen Broun and other Aldermen that the said ordinances had been made during the Mayoralty of the said Stephen Broun [1438-9], and were left in the custody of the Chamberlain to be executed, they are ordered by the said Mayor and Aldermen to be here entered of record.[2]

[1] Heronshaws or herenshews, young herons.

[2] The ordinances which follow are set out in Black's 'Hist. of the Leathersellers' Company,' pp. 25–6.

Fo. 216. 8 Jan., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443-4], came John Hert, one of the Clerks of the Chapel of St. Thomas upon London Bridge, before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and prayed that he might continue to be one of the continually resident clerks in the said Chapel for the term of his life, taking the wages and rewards accustomed. His prayer granted.

Weavers. Friday, 10 Jan., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443-4], came many stranger valets or servants of "Wevers," called "jorneymen," before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and complained that whereas hitherto they had been accustomed to elect Wardens of the Mistery for presentation before the Mayor for the time being, in order to be sworn according to custom, the Masters of the said Mistery, who were householders, had for the last six years claimed that such election belonged to them and not to the serving men. Both parties having been heard, it was ordained that henceforth the Masters of the Mistery should elect the Wardens, by licence of the Mayor, and that the serving men should have no voice in such election.

Fo. 216 b. 23 Dec., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443], came divers good men of the community of the principal and chief clerks of the parish and collegiate churches of the City before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and exhibited certain articles agreed upon by John Chichele, the Chamberlain, and the aforesaid community touching the liberties of the said clerks within the City, viz.:—

"First, it is accorded betwixt the Chambirlayn of the Citee of London and the parisshe Clerkis in the same Citee that ther shall be admittid in to the fraunchise and liberte of the seid Citee xxviii personis in noumbre for the whiche admission the seid clerkis shull yeve un to thuse of the chambre of the seid Citee xx li.

"Furthermore, if eny man desire to be enfraunchised as of the seid office of parisshe clerkis hereafterward be hit forseyn allwey that he be that tyme or ellis have be contynuelly before a parisshe clerk of the same Citee or ellis be he nat receyvid and than with trete and a corde with the Chamberlayn for the tyme beyng for suche a summe as shall seme hym resonable and

this so witnessid by the goodmen of thoffice of clerkis aforeseid to be presentid and admittid.

"Also the forseid Clerkis shulle take no manere of apprentise to thoffice of Clerkis aforseid but un to all suche maner Craftes as their wifis usen and occupien so as hit may stonde with the fraunchise and custumes of the Citee had before & in non othir wise.

"Also the forseid Clerkys for to have this liberte & fraunchise have grauntid to founde a prest perpetuelly to synge and be present in the Chapell of Guyldhalle at all dyvine service therin to be don savyng at alle suche dyvers tymis in the yeere as the seide prest nedyth to be sent fore by the Maisters of the bretherhode of the seid Clerkys for the tyme beyng for their vigilies Masses & quarterdays at due tymys to be don they fyndyng also to the seid prest brede wyne wex boke vestmentis & Chalise belongynge to thauter of the seid brotherhode callid Seint Nicholas auter in the seid Chapell to the seid perpetuell prest assignid.

"And also the seid Clerkis desiren for as muche as they ben Comune officeris in the seid Citee that they mowe be disported and dispenced with of alle somones wachis and juries on lasse than it touche the Kyng or his person.

"Also the goodmen afore seid desyren that for as moche as thei be nethir marchaundis nether artificers that they been eke dispensid with of the bonde and borowes bounden in recognisance as goith upon marchandis & artificeris that shulle come yn by redempcion as be thordinance theron made in the tyme of John Perneys late Maire with outen hirte or prejudice of theym or of the Chambirlayn as it is in the ordinaunce conteyned.[1]

"Also that the forseide Clerkis that nowe been fremen of othir Craftis mowe at thys tyme be translated un to this felaship officers parisshe Clerkys under the costis of the somme above writtene."

The above articles approved as fostering divine worship, and not being to the injury of any, the Mayor and Aldermen reserving to themselves the right to change or amend them if need be.

[1] *Vide supra*, pp. 161-3.

Fo. 217. Friday, 31 Jan., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443-4], came Ralph Gay, grocer, before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented letters patent discharging him from various duties and offices, dated at Westminster, 15 Oct., 20 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441]. Decree made by the said Mayor and Aldermen thereon.

6 Feb., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443-4], came Henry Purchas, grocer, Thomas Hawkyn, John Tynkildene, John Waldene, and John Bolle into the Court of the lord the King, before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £120.

The same day the guardianship of William, John, Thomas, and Johanna, children of Robert Hulle, late grocer, together with their patrimony of £120, committed by Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and the Chamberlain to the above Henry Purchase on his giving the above bond.

7 Feb., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443-4], came Thomas, son of Richard Wythyale, late goldsmith, into the Court of the lord the King, before the said Mayor and Aldermen, and acknowledged he had received from John Chicheley, the Chamberlain, divers sums of money accruing to him from his said father, from Alice his mother, and John his brother.

Fo. 217 b. 2 March, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443-4], ordinance of the Common Council that, in order to relieve the increasing debts of the Chamber, the fees for enrolment of apprentices and wills should for the next four years be doubled, viz., for enrolment of wills 5*s.* 4*d.*, for entrances of apprentices 5*s.*, and the exits of the same 7*s.* If this be not sufficient to pay off the debts, the fees are to be continued until the debts are paid off.

Writ of Privy Seal granting licence to John Hatherle, the Mayor, and the citizens to purchase 200 fodders of lead anywhere within the realm, at a reasonable price, and to carry it to the City for the work of conduits with Standards, &c., in West Chepe, the rebuilding of a common Granary (*Garnariam*) and the erection of a handsome Cross there to serve as a cistern (*augea*) and as a mother (*tanquam mater*) for the same

conduits[1]; and further to impress as many masons, plumbers, and others as were necessary for the work. Witness the King at Chesewik, 25 June, 21 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443].

28 March, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], Simon Harpham, tailor, discharged by Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

23 May, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], Peter at Hoke, "joynour," similarly discharged for like cause.

Sunday, 3 May, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], the following proclamation made by order of Thomas Catworth, the Mayor:— Fo. 218.

"Be it proclamed that no maner Fisshmonger Bochier Pulter denizeine ne foreyne nor Baker foreyne selle no manere vitaille upon the Sonday but yef the gretter necessite require it And that in noone opyne shope ne other opyne places upon peyne that the Maire & Aldremen after theire discrecons wille ordeyngne.

"Item that no Cook neither sethe bake nor rost on Sunday tille vii of the Clok be the morowe upon the same peyne.

"Also that noone Hostiller ne Cook selle no rawe flesshe on the Sonday upon the peyne aforesaid.

"Also that noone herbe wife milke wife ne sellere of Boowis[2] Flouris[3] Briddez[4] ne noone other bringe noone to selle upon the Sonday on the peyne aforesaide But that these and alle othir kepe theire mercate here upon the Saturday," &c.[5]

[1] Stow gives a different version of the matter (although he probably obtained his knowledge from this record); for he not only ascribes the date of the royal licence to the years 1441 and 1442 as well as 1443, but he speaks of the cross (which, according to the Letter-Book, was to be specially erected for the purpose of a Standard for the water conduits) as Queen Eleanor's cross which was to be restored: "Then in the yeare 1443 the 21 of *Henrie* the sixt, *John Hatherley* Maior purchased licence of the said King to take vp 200 fodder of Leade, for the building of water Conduits, a common Granarie, and the crosse in west Cheape more richly for honour of the Citee" (Stow's 'Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 17, 153, 266).

[2] Boughs.

[3] Flowers.

[4] Birds.

[5] "And this yere [viz., 22 Henry VI., Catworth, Mayor] it was ordeyned that the Sonday shold be hold high and holy, and that no maner of vitaill shuld be brought to the Towne and sold, nother by Citizenis nor by foreyns." MS. Cotton. Vitellius A xvi., fo. 104 (Kingsford's 'Chronicles of London,' p. 156).

Havering de antiquo d'nico Corone Anglie.

Writ to Sheriffs, Mayors, and Wardens of seaports, &c., notifying them that the town of Haveryng atte Boure is of the ancient demesne of the Crown, and that its inhabitants therefore are quit of toll. Witness the King at Westminster, 30 Oct., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443].

7 June, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], William White, goldsmith, discharged by Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

The same day John Hirst, skinner, similarly discharged for like cause.

Fo. 218 b.

9 June, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], William Ecton, *alias* Russell, tailor, similarly discharged for like cause.

Composicio pro le Garner in paroch' Sc'i Petri in Cornhill construct' per Simonem Eyre.

Indenture whereby Katherine, late wife of John Carpenter, junior, formerly Common Clerk of the City, grants a right of way through a hostel and garden, &c.—formerly leased to her and her late husband in the parish of St. Peter upon Cornhulle, in the Ward of Lymestrete, by Nicholas Wottone, the Mayor, and the Commonalty—to a Garner which Simon Eyre, draper, was about to erect abutting on her property;[1] in consideration for which, John Chichele, the Chamberlain, with the assent of Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty, demises to the said Katherine a certain garden situate to the east of the ancient Chapel there adjoining, for a term of thirty years. Dated 28 May, A.D. 1444.

Fo. 219.

15 June, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], Laurence Sprenger, "chesemonger," discharged by Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'ac' ab assisis.

10 July, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], writ for the discharge of John White, "turnour," from serving on juries, &c., he being

[1] This granary, together with a Chapel (in place, it appears, of an older chapel), was built by Simon Eyre on the site of, or adjacent to, the Leadenhall. (Stow, 'Survey,' ed. Kingsford, i. 154.) The hostel here mentioned was devised by will of John Carpenter (dated 8 March, 1441–2) to Katherine his wife for a term of twenty years (the original term enjoyed by husband and wife in the tenement, by grants from the City, being seventy years), with remainder to the church of St. Peter, Cornhill. See Brewer's 'Life of Carpenter,' pp. 134–5.

over seventy years of age, and order of the Mayor and Aldermen thereon.

For the kep' of the liberary atte Guyldehalle, etc.

13 July, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], came Master John Clipstone, Chaplain and Keeper of the library of the Guildhall, before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and proffered a petition as follows:—

"To the full honurable lord and souveraignes Maire and Aldermen of the Citee of London:

"Besechith lowely youre prest and bedeman Maister John Clipstone keper of youre liberary atte Guyldehalle, that for as moche as it hath likede you for to take to hym the kepinge and charge of the said liberary Please it to you for to considre the great attendaunce and charge the whiche he hath with it and in waytenge therupone to graunte that he may be made sure of his lyflode housyng and easement of the gardyn which he hath for that occupacioun atte this day that he be nat hereafter putte away therfro ne noo parte theroff nor noone other charge put upone hym So that he may have more cause and occasioun to pray besyly for the weele of you and of the said Citee," &c.[1]

Thereupon the said office was granted to him for life.

Rejeccio nominac'ois Ald'ri secundum antiq' consuetud' civitatis.

24 July, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], four persons nominated by the Commonalty of the Ward of Bridge to Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, for one of them to be elected by the said Mayor and Aldermen as Alderman of the said Ward,[2] viz., Robert Horne and three others [not named]. But because none of them appeared to be sufficient for that office and able to undertake its burdens, in the opinion of the said Mayor and Aldermen, the nomination was rejected according to the ancient custom of the City, and it was

[1] Set out (although somewhat inaccurately) in Price's 'Hist. Account of the Guildhall,' p. 127.

[2] Until the year 1397 each Ward had directly elected its own Alderman. In that year, however, it was decreed that thenceforth the Ward that was destitute of an Alderman should nominate at least two worthy and substantial citizens to the Mayor and Aldermen for them to select one. ('Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 436.) In 1402 the number of persons so to be nominated was raised to four. See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 18n.

agreed that the said Commonalty of the Ward should proceed to another nomination within fifteen days.

Afterwards, viz., on Monday, 27 July, four other persons were nominated, viz., Robert Horne, Philip Malpas, John Lynge, and Thomas Barry, of whom Robert Horne was elected Alderman of the Ward, and on the morrow was sworn and admitted according to ancient custom.

Pro lez Pewt'ers. Friday, 10 July, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], ordinance by the Common Council that the Wardens of the mistery of "Peautrers" shall have a fourth part of all the tin brought for sale to the City at the current price.

Fo. 219 b. Wednesday, 22 July, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], a petition to the Common Council that the Wardens of the Mistery of "Peautrers" may have power to search and assay all tin melted in the City and the franchise thereof.[1]

The petition granted.

Transmutac' ab una arte in al'. 7 Aug., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], came Thomas, son of John Denley, late saddler, before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Mistery of Saddlers, *temp.* William Estfeld, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 15th May, 16 Henry VI. [A.D. 1438], he had long been of the community of the principal and chief clerks of the parish and collegiate churches of the City. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted to the freedom of the City in the said office and community. His prayer granted.

Transmutac' ab arte Scriptor' texti usque in offi-cium Clericor' parochial' et Collegiat'. The same day Thomas Hatfeld, of co. Essex, a text-writer, prayed to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the office and community of the principal and chief clerks of the parish and collegiate churches, &c. His prayer granted.

Fo. 220. *Elecc'o Steph'i Fost' in Al'm.* 31 July, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], four persons nominated by the Commonalty of the Ward of Bredstret to Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, for one of them to be elected

[1] Set out (together with the preceding ordinance) in Welch's 'Hist. of the Pewterers' Company,' i. 13–14.

Alderman of the said Ward, viz., Stephen Forster, William Dere, Thomas Beaumond, and William Chapman, of whom Stephen Forster was elected Alderman of the Ward, and on Wednesday, the 4th Aug., he was sworn and admitted according to the ancient custom of the City.

10 June, 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], came Robert, son of John Higham, late draper, before Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony, which had been brought into Court by John Langley, mercer, and Thomas Clerke, writer of the court-letter, his father's executors, and which he had now received from John Chichele, the Chamberlain.

27 Aug., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], came Isabella, widow of Nicholas Egremond, late "peautrer," Ralph Stokes and Thomas Shrubbe, grocers, Peter Alfold and William Bere, mercers, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £30.

The same day the guardianship of John, William, John junior, and Margaret, children of the above Nicholas Egremond, together with the sum of £30, their patrimony, committed by Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and the Chamberlain to the above Isabella their mother, on her finding security as above.

2 Sept., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], John Russhetone, tailor, discharged by the Mayor and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs bidding them to take steps for keeping the bank of the river and the streets and lanes of the City free from dirt and rubbish, as formerly they used to be kept. Witness the King at Westminster, 1 Aug., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444]. Fo. 220 b.

Indenture of lease by John Chichele, the Chamberlain, with the assent of John Hathirle, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, to Richard Sturgeon, Clerk of the Crown of the lord the King, of a parcel of the common land in Westsmythfeld, as set out by

metes and bounds; to hold the same for a term of sixty-six years, at an annual rent of a red rose at Midsummer. Dated 6 Oct., 1443.

"To the Kinge oure souveraigne lord

"Please it you souveraigne lord to considre that]of [*sic*] it be so that diverse persounes nat welle enfourmede objecte by motives disclosed unto youre highnesse that your high grace late graunted unto youre Chambre and Citee of London shoulde be prejudiciall unto the good publique of youre Shire of Surre it may please unto your moost abundant grace tassigne certein notable persounes to whom that the Counseille of youre said Citee may shewe theire reasons and replicacions in that partie the whiche shewed unto youre highnesse shalle sufficeantly answere and contente every persoune reasonable so as they shalle by reason conceyve that youre said grace oweth to be gret pleasire to godde and you profitable unto youre said Citee and also the good publique of youre said Shire of Surre and nothinge unto youre trewe liege people of the said Shire hurt nor prejudiciall."[1]

Fo. 221.

Cons' declarat' de Fixis non amovend'.

Much controversy having arisen as to tenants' rights to fixtures, according to the most ancient custom of the City, it is declared by the Mayor and Aldermen, after consulting the records and judgments of the City, that as to easements affixed to the houses, &c., by tenants without special licence from the landlord, if they be affixed by nails of iron, or wood, or with mortar, or if plants throw out roots, branches, &c., they shall not be removed by tenants at the end of their term, but shall always remain with the landlord. [No date.]

Exon'acio ab assis'.

11 June, 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], letters patent dated 4 May, 19 Henry VI. [A.D. 1441], having been received by Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, to the effect that William Straunxhille, skinner, should be discharged from

[1] The petition probably refers to a charter granted by the King to the City on the 26th Oct., 1444, touching rights to the soil of the Thames to which the county of Surrey may have laid some claim. The charter (still preserved among the City's archives) gave rise to much controversy, both as to its validity and effect.

serving on juries, &c., the said Mayor and Aldermen decree accordingly.

Fo. 221 b.

Electio Vicecomitum.

Monday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], in the presence of Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, John Reynwelle, Henry Frowik, John Gedney, Robert Cloptone, John Hatherle, William Melrethe, Nicholas Yoo, William Gregory, William Coumbes, John Norman, Nicholas Wifold, John Olney, Robert Horne, and Stephen Forster, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, Stephen Forster was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Hugh Wiche was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Chichele was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and John Herst, skinner, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and John Olney, Robert Horne, Aldermen, and Richard Alley, William Marowe, John Derby, and Thomas Davy, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the City for the year ensuing, to audit the accounts of the Chamberlain and Wardens in arrear.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Concess' fact' cuidam Will'o Cheyne q'd sit unus iiij^or Capellanor' in Capella Sc'i Thome sup' pontem.

Monday, 21 Sept., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], William Cheyne, chaplain, appointed by Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty to be one of the four chaplains celebrating in the Chapel upon London Bridge, at a salary of 10 marks a year, and receiving, moreover, bread, wine, lights, and surplices (with their washing), like other chaplains, together with the enjoyment of one of the chambers within "le Briggehous" assigned to such chaplains, and firing from the "shredes" and "spones"[1] of the wood used by the carpenters of the Bridge.

[1] Chips or splinters of wood. A spoon was originally a chip of wood for supping up liquid. Wedgwood, 'Dict.,' *sv.* "Spoon." Cf. spone, *coclear*, Way's 'Prompt.'

Admissio cujusdam ad unum servient' Camere etc.

Tuesday, 13 Oct., the vigil [*sic*] of St. Edward the King and Confessor, anno 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], there being present in the Court of the lord the King, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, John Sevenoke, Prior of Christchurch, John Reynwelle, John Gedney, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broune, John Pattesle, John Hatherle, William Melreth, Thomas Wandesford, John Olney, William Wetenhale, William Gregory, John Suttone, William Coumbes, John Norman, Nicholas Wifold, Robert Horne, and Stephen Forster, Aldermen, it was ordained that William Caldebek should thenceforth be one of the permanent Serjeants of the Chamber, on the usual terms.

Fo. 222.

Eleccio Simonis Eyre al'.

19 Oct., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], four persons nominated to Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, by the Commonalty of the Ward of Walbrook, for one of them to be elected Alderman of the said Ward, viz., Simon Eyre, Philip Malpas, William Chapman, and Richard Alley, whereupon Simon Eyre was elected, and on the morrow was sworn and admitted.

Elecc'o Joh'is Derby in al'm.

Tuesday, 23 Nov., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], John Derby, Thomas Scot, William Chapman, and William Dere nominated by the Commonalty of the Ward of Candelwekestret for the Aldermanry of the Ward, of whom John Derby was elected by the Mayor and Aldermen. On Thursday, 26 Nov. [*sic*], he was sworn and admitted.

20 Nov., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], came Richard Nedham, John Sturgeon, Thomas Bernard, Thomas Batayle, "Agustine" Stratton, John Harowe, and John Chirche into the Court of the lord the King, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 500 marks.

The same day the guardianship of Hugh, Alexander, Elianora, Oliver, and Elizabeth, children of John Kyng, late tailor, together with their patrimony, committed by Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Chamberlain to the above Richard Nedham (who married the mother of the said orphans), on his finding the above security.

Afterwards, viz., on the 8th June, 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], John Kirkeby, mercer, became a surety *loco* Thomas Bernard, deceased.

Tuesday, 13 Oct., the eve [*sic*] of St. Edward, anno 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], there was delivered to Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, the following letter under the King's Privy Seal:— Fo. 222 b.

Electio Henrici Frowyk Maioris non obstan' l'ris d'ni Regis injer' spec'.

"To oure Right trusty trusty [*sic*] and welbeloved the Maier Aldremen and Comunes of oure Citee of London.

"Right trusty trusty and welbeloved. We grete you wele and late you wite þat we have wretene under oure signet unto oure right trusty right faithfulle and welbeloved William Estfeld Knyght and an Alderman of oure Citee of London þat howe be it þat he afore this divers tymes hathe be Maire of oure said Citee[1] and may nomore be compelled to take on hym þe said Office without his owne agrement We have prayde him hertly to take upon him by youre eleccion þe said office of Mairalte as for this yeere next comyng Consideryng thordre and worshippe þat he standeth in and þapproved sadd wisdome and discrecion þat he is of þe whiche shulde mowe do us the more worshippe and gretter pleasure in suche thinges as oure lord shalle lust gide [*sic*] this yeere[2] We trust his mercy unto the worshippe of us the wele and profite of oure said Citee and of alle this oure Royaume Wheryn we wolle and pray you to considre þees before and put you in youre fulle devoyr to þexecucion of oure said desire and writyng as we shall shewe you favour in thinges þat ye have to suwe for to us Yeven under oure prive seall at Westm' þe xiij day of Octobre."

After the celebration of Mass, according to the custom of the City, the above letter was read before the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty, after which the Mayor and Aldermen ascended to their own Council Chamber to study the City's laws.

[1] Namely, in 1429-30 and 1437-8.

[2] The coronation of Margaret of Anjou was to take place in 1445, and it was on this account that the King desired that Estfeld should again occupy the Mayoralty Chair, as he had done at his own coronation in 1429, when the Mayor was presented with a gold cup and ewer as customary on such occasions. *Vide supra*, pp. 103-4.

From these it plainly appeared that no one should be again elected Mayor who had already twice filled the office or had been Mayor within the last seven years.[1] And because of the high character of the said William Estfeld the said Mayor forthwith summoned a Common Council in the Outer Chamber to consider the matter, when, the ordinances aforesaid having been made known, it seemed good to the Commonalty that, notwithstanding the said William Estfeld being a most suitable person to be in office at the coming of the Queen into England in the following year, the laws made by their ancestors, which they themselves were sworn to keep, should be upheld, lest a thing once done should become a pernicious precedent.

Thereupon on the same day, in the presence of Thomas Catworth, the Mayor, John Sevenoke the Prior of Christchurch, Robert Danvers the Recorder, John Reynwelle, Henry Frowik, John Gedney, Stephen Broun, John Pattesle, John Hatherle, William Melrethe, Thomas Wandesforth, John Olney, William Gregory, William Coumbes, John Suttone, William Wetenhale, John Norman, Nicholas Wifold, Robert Horne, and Stephen Forster, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty,[2] Henry Frowik was elected Mayor for the year ensuing.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Letter from the King to the Mayor and Aldermen as follows:

"Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well and for asmoch as we have nowe late souffisantly provided for John Houghtone

[1] In 1424 it had been decreed that no one who had already served as Mayor should thenceforth serve again until seven years had elapsed from his last Mayoralty (*supra*, pp. 33–4). Estfeld had already twice filled the office of Mayor, and seven years would have elapsed since he had last served, so that he was eligible again, except for an ordinance passed in 1435 that no one who had twice been Mayor should be elected a third time (*supra*, p. 191).

[2] It is to be noted that the members of the Common Council are not specifically recorded (as on the last two occasions) as having taken part in the Mayor's election, nor are they so recorded at subsequent elections.

which under you hath occupied thoffice of waterbayly in the Thames We therfore considering the merites and good service that our welbeloved William Veyse hath doone unto us desire and hertly prey you that for oure sake ye wolle yeve and graunte þe said office unto the said William to have and occupie it with alle the duetees and commodities therto longing as long as he shalle bere him wel in the same And that ye wolle also yeve him semblably the weyng of Elys in oure said Tamys with alle the prouffitz and commodites therto longing And furthermore we late you wete that he hath do us to be enfourmede of the greet kyndenesse and favour that ye have shewid unto us [*sic*] for oure sake wherof we thanke you and prey you of good continuance and in esp'al to thaccomplisshing of oure desire afore reherced wherinne ye shalle do unto us ful good pleasure Yeven under oure signet at oure Castell of Wyndesore the vii day of Januar'" [*s.a.*].

The above request granted 21 Jan., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444–5].

12 Nov., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], William Wynant, "pouchemaker," discharged by Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 223.

Letter from the King to the Mayor and Aldermen as follows:—

"Trusty and welbelovede we grete you wel and late you wite that it is commen unto oure knowelech howe that the Citezeins of oure Citee of London owe to have and have had of tyme that no mynde is by the handes of oure Shiriefs of the said Citee for the tyme beyng a custume perteining to the Shiriefwyk of the said Citee callede Scawage of alle manere merchandises to oure said Citee brought by londe or by water to besolde by eny maner of straunger or foreyn Nowe þe said Custume is withseid by the merchauntz of Geane[1] in disheritaunce of us and prejudice of the said citezeins Wherfore we wollyng in alle wise to purveie covenable remedye aswelle for indempnite of us in this partie as for the said Citezeins

[1] Genoa.

signifie you for youre consolacion that we have do oure lettres severelles to be made under oure signet the oon directed unto oure Chaunceller of England and the other unto the keper of oure prive seel charginge theim by the same to suffre oure lawe to be had in this partie as thordre and processe of oure said lawes requiren so that for defaulte of execucion of oure lawes no partie have cause to complayne eny commaundement yeven unto the contrarie nat withstandyng Yeven under oure signet at oure castell of Wyndesore the thridde day of January" [*s.a.*].

Writ for the election of four citizens to attend a Parliament to be held at Westminster on the 25th February next. No Sheriff to be returned. Witness the King at Westminster, 13 Jan., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444–5].[1]

15 Jan., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444–5], writ received by Henry Frowik, the Mayor, to discharge Nicholas Gylle from serving on juries, &c., if he be found to be over seventy years of age. Writ dated 7 Dec. [A.D. 1444]. The said Nicholas discharged accordingly.

Fos. 223 b-225. Here follows a long list of names, to each of which a sum of money (assessed upon tenements and land) is appended, for what purpose is not clear:—

John Lovekyn, Richard Box, Richard Turk, Thomas Baltiswell, the Abbot of Cogeshale, Thomas Gros, Isabella Bokerell, Benedict Balle, John Mountegu, Thomas de Burton, Richard Lambehithe, John Popell, John Yone, Gregory Nortone, John

[1] The return is not recorded in the Letter-Book. In Journal 4 there are two entries touching this election, one (on fo. 59 b) giving the names of those returned as Reynwell and the Recorder (John Bowys, who sat for the City in the previous Parliament), together with (Thomas) Burgoyne and (John) Sturgeon, Commoners; and the other (on fo. 60) recording only two of the four elected, viz., J. Reynwell and T. Catworth, Aldermen. The first entry is dated 21 Jan., and the second 27 Jan. According to the late Bp. Stubbs "no parliament was held between 1442 and 1445" ('Const. Hist.,' iii. 132). This might be misunderstood. The proceedings of the Parliament which commenced to sit on the 25th Feb., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444–5], are set out in the Rolls of Parliament (v. 66-127), although under date A.D. 1444.

Fitz Nicholl, John Oxenford, William Scorwles, Gilbert Chesewik, Nicholas Crane, John le leche, Henry Palmer, Walter Morys, Simon Gaunt, John de Lyndewode, William de St. Alban, Richer de Refham, Thomas de Capenhors, Robert Abbell, Richard Vyncent, Walter Wodecok, William de Caxtone,[1] Thomas Ferebras, Thomas atte Plomerdich, John le Feroun, Robert Aglone, John Feroun, Thomas Porter, William Tanner, Thomas Porter [*sic*], John Marchaunt, William Prest, Bartholomew Burghashe, John Grateside, John atte More, Hugh Hastyng, Adam Wymondham, Thomas Grantham, James de Berford, Ralph Knyghtone, Robert Knolles, Andrew Awbrey, John Barnet, Simon Godard, John Chirchman, William le Maserer,[2] William Gartone, William Herkstede, John Adrian, "peverer," John Nevile, Nicholas Vigerous, Reginald Chaundeler, John Spray, Hugh Lancastre, William Pertenale, Alan de Suttone, John Dacres, Richard Bonaventure, Nicholas Crane, Thomas Brandeswik, Elena in Manionlane,[3] John Mapelesdene, the tenement of St. James, Henry Cobham, William Spark, clerk, John de Oxon', the Prior of Bermondesey, John de Canterbury, Robert Flanbard, the tenements of Priors Without, Richard Aslyn, the Abbot of Colchestre, John Cheyham, Nicholas Bray, John Hadley, John Cosyn, Henry Laffayre, Henry Bosworth, Thomas Enfeld, William Draytone, John Burford, Simon Rokysley, Adam Fulham, Stephen Hervy, Rich' Refham, Thomas Gambard, John Norman, Nicholas Wifold, Thomas Blakwell, the lands of Halywell, John Furneux, Stephen Candisshe, from Christchurch,[4] John Briklisworth, John Goodchepe, Agnes Brigge, John Horne, *de summa* Kilbourne, Adam Fraunceys, *de summa* Paul, Walter Aldebury, Thomas Aswyn, *de summa* Bartholomei, Henry Sechford, *de summa* Katherine, John de Panetria,

Fo. 224.

Fo. 224 b.

[1] Not improbably the famous printer, whose term of apprenticeship to Robert Large, late Alderman and Mercer, was drawing to a close. The sum here recorded as due for his tenement is one penny.

[2] Maker of mazer cups.

[3] Mincing Lane.

[4] Probably Holy Trinity or Christchurch, Aldgate.

John Thorpe de Herwich, John Ware, Nicholas Brembre, H[ ] St. James, Ralph Elleswik, the Prior of Bermondsey, *de summa* St. John, Godfrey Prest, Richard Barnet, *de* St. Alban, *de summa* Westminster, John Hadstoke, *de* Merton,[1] the monastery of Helen, John Mountegu, the Hospital of St. Giles, the New Hospital, the brethren of Bartholomew, Robert Betoyne, Robert Louthe, Robert Kelsey, Robert Polhille, Richard Lacer, the Prior of Suthwerk, Bartholomew Burwassh, Thomas Mokkyng, Thomas Romayne, John Sely, *de* Acon,[2] John Jorden, Roger Essex, *de Novo loco*,[3] R[ ] Reynham, John Doget,
Fo. 225. Stephen Colney, the tenements of the Abbot of Wobourne, Elizabeth Burle, the Friars of the Penance,[4] John Beaumond, the Prior of Elsyng, William Baret, M[ ] atte Mille.

The Rector of St. Michael in Crokedlane for land, Adam de Walpole and Henry de Percye.

8 Jan., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], came William More, William Dowdale, "bruer," John Arnold, "lethersiller," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 100 marks.[5]

Fo. 225 b. Letters patent conferring privileges of naturalization upon John Maunche, of Venice, and his lawful heirs. Witness the King at Westminster, 26 Nov., 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1443].

Hostillers. Tuesday, 2 March, 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], ordinance by Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, that no hosteler sell foreign horse bread within the City or liberties, under penalty of imprisonment and forfeiture of the bread and also a fine of 20*s*. to the Chamber.

Writ to the Mayor of the City, the King's Escheator, notifying that a royal pardon had been granted to Thomas

[1] Merton Abbey, co. Surrey.

[2] The hospital of St. Thomas de Acon.

[3] The Priory of New Place, or Newark, near Guildford.

[4] *Fratres de Penitentia* or *de Sacca* (from their wearing sackcloth), who had their house in or near Old Jewry.

[5] The bond was no doubt in respect of a guardian's surety, but the page is left blank where the guardian's appointment should have been recorded.

Byflete, "taillour," *alias* "brewer." Witness the King at Westminster, 27 Feb., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5].[1]

16 March, 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen receive the King's writ (dated 28 Jan., 23 Henry VI.) bidding them discharge John Roos, "loksmyth," from serving on juries, &c., if found to be over seventy years of age. Order accordingly. Fo. 226.

28 Feb., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], Robert Crulle, "bowiere," discharged by the above Mayor and Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

21 Nov., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], came Richard Nedham, mercer, who married Johanna, widow of John Kinge, tailor, John Sturgeon, Thomas "Barard,"[2] Thomas Bataille, Augustine Strattone, John Harowe, and John Chirche, mercers, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into a bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 520 marks.[3] Fo. 226 b.

Thursday, 17 June, 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], Thomas Bracy, draper, discharged by Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to his suffering from sciatica (*scietica passione*) and other infirmities. Fo. 226*.

25 Sept., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], Thomas Strodelle, "taillour," similarly discharged owing to increasing old age.

15 Nov., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], came William, son of Adam Lightwode de Asshebourne, co. Derby, an apprentice of Reginald Bonyng, "friser,"[4] before Simon Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Frisers," *temp.* William Estfeld, Mayor, and John Bederendene, Chamberlain, viz., on the 19th Oct., anno

[1] On fo. 226 b there is a recital (in English) of this grant, but the record ends abruptly.

[2] Mistake for Bernard. Cf. *supra*, p. 300.

[3] The same remark applies here as in the case of a bond, *supra*, fo. 225.

[4] Probably meaning one who puts a nap on cloth, whence known as "frieze cloth." It was largely manufactured in Ireland and Wales. Cf. "Fryse or frysyd clothe. *Pannus villatus*" (Way's 'Prompt.').

9 Henry VI. [A.D. 1430], he had long used, and was still using, the mistery of Drapers. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the said Art of Drapers. His prayer granted at the instance of good men of the said Mistery.

Fo. 226 b. 12 July, 23 Henry IV. [A.D. 1445], Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and the Aldermen receive the King's writ (dated 3 July, the same year) bidding them to discharge Henry Trespyn, "taillour," from serving on juries, &c., if he be found over seventy years of age. [Order thereon not recorded.]

23 Sept., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], Thomas Thundre, clerk, confessed before the Mayor and Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall that he had forged a document to the effect that an attachment had been made on the goods of Arnald Hofman in respect of a debt due by him to John Gylle, "taillour." The goods comprised (*inter alia*) a gold "coler," garnished with 10 rubies and 10 pearls with a "hanger" and a "lesenge diamant"; another gold "coler" with 29 "troches[1] de perle," each "troche" comprising 4 pearls, and a gold cup, weighing 17 oz. and 18½ pence Troy; also woollen cloths called "Redes," "Colchestre Russet," "Frise," and "Kerses."[2] The said goods were alleged in the document to have been appraised in the presence of Robert Whelpele, serjeant, by oath of John Hakwell and Thomas Whitebrede, goldsmiths, Richard Jenecok, "sherman," and John Billesdon, draper. Thereupon the document was annulled and the said Thomas dismissed from office.

24 Sept., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], at the special instance of the King, in Common Council held at the Guildhall, Geoffrey Boleyn, mercer, discharged by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty from serving on juries, &c., except on necessitous occasion.

20 Sept., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], came John Stone, tailor, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Henry Frowik, the Mayor, and prayed that

[1] Lozenge-shaped bunches or groups of pearls.

[2] A coarse cloth, probably so called from its manufacture having originated at the village of Kersey, co. Suffolk. See *Notes and Queries*, 10S. xi. 85, 178.

the loss of his gold signet ring, inscribed with his initials, &c. (as depicted), might be recorded in order to prevent fraud.

Fo. 227.

Eleccio Vicecomitum.

Tuesday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], in the presence of Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, William Estfeld, Knt., John Reynwelle, John Gedney, Stephen Broun, Robert Cloptone, John Hatherle, Thomas Wandesford, William Gregory, Nicholas Wifold, John Olney, Stephen Forster, John Norman, Robert Horne, and Simon Eyre, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs, John Derby, Alderman, was elected one of the Sheriffs for the year ensuing by the Mayor, and Geoffrey Feldyng was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain for the year ensuing; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and John Herst, skinner, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and Robert Horne and Geoffrey Feldyng,[1] Aldermen, and Richard Alley, William Marowe, Thomas Cook, junior, and Thomas Haukyns, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the Chamber and the said Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

12 Oct., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], John Syriche, vintner, discharged by Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to ill health.

13 Oct., the same year, John Wattes, "cook," similarly discharged for like cause.

19 Oct., the same year, William Rede, fishmonger, similarly discharged owing to increasing old age.

3 Nov., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], came Henry, son of William Waver, late of Waver',[2] co. Warwick, before Simon

[1] Feldyng does not appear to have been an Alderman before April, 1446. See Beaven's 'Aldermen,' p. 145. The name, probably, should be Stephen Forster.

[2] Merston, co. Warw., purchased by William de Waver, and called Waver's-Merston to distinguish it from other Merstons in the county. Dugdale's 'Warwickshire,' p. 715.

Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Tailors *temp.* Henry Frowyk, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 12th Jan., anno 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery of Drapers; he prayed, therefore [*record not completed*].

Fo. 227 b. 27 Oct., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], came John Sturgeon, mercer, and Beatrix his wife, an orphan, daughter of Richard Aylemer, late mercer, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and acknowledged satisfaction for his wife's patrimony; and Johanna, mother of the said Beatrix, and her sureties are thereof quit.

11 Nov., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], grant by Simon Eyre, the Mayor, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broune, Robert Cloptone, Thomas Catworth, John Hatherle, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Melreth, William Coumbes, William Wetenhale, Nicholas Wifold, Stephen Forster, Robert Horne, John Derby, and Thomas Canynges, Aldermen, to John Norman, Alderman, to have and enclose a plot of the common soil of the City near the hostel called "le White Bulle" in Westsmythfeld, for a term of sixty years, he paying a red rose on Monday in Whitsun week at the parish church of St. Peter in Cornhill at the hour of the commencement of the procession accustomed on that day.[1]

Eccl'ia Sc'i Petri in Cornhille. 27 Oct., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], disputes having arisen touching the right of presentation to the Bishop for the parish church of St. Peter in Cornhill, it was ordained by the Common Council that thenceforth whenever a vacancy occurred, four of the best known secular clerks within the City, or residing within a mile of the same, approved in moral character and knowledge, should be appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen to nominate to the Common Council four persons whom they deemed fit for the office, each of them being a Doctor or Bachelor of Sacred Theology, and a secular, not beneficed, and willing to reside in

[1] See 'Liber Alb.,' i. 29. Cf. *supra*, p. 108.

the said church, in order that one of them so nominated, or of others, if need be, may be presented by the said Mayor and Aldermen, with the assent of the Commonalty, to the Bishop for canonical institution. Thereupon in [*sic*] the said Common Council there were nominated, for the next nomination so to be made, four Doctors of Theology, viz., Master William Lichefeld, Master Peter Beverley, Master Thomas Ebrale, and Master Gilbert Worthington.[1]

Eleccio Maioris.

Wednesday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], in the presence of Henry Frowik, the Mayor, Thomas Pomerey the Prior of Christchurch, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Stephen Broun, John Pattesle, Robert Cloptone, John Hatherle, Thomas Wandesford, John Olney, William Gregory, William Melreth, John Suttone, Thomas Chaltone, William Wetenhale, John Norman, Nicholas Wifold, Robert Horne, Stephen Forster, Simon Eyre, and John Derby, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Simon Eyre, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, was elected. Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 228.

Thursday, 28 Oct., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], grant by Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to Roger Spycer of an annuity of 100*s.* for his diligent services, until better provision be made for him.

8 March, 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445-6], came Thomas, son of Simon Eyre, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Large, late mercer, before the said Simon Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for 500

[1] None of these appears to have been eventually appointed, the benefice being conferred upon Thomas Gascoyne, S.T.P., sometime Chancellor of Oxford, on the 26th Nov.—Hennessy's 'Nov. Repert.,' pp. cli and 375. An English version of the ordinance is printed in 'Historical Memoranda' ('Three Fifteenth Cent. Chron.,' Camd. Soc., N.S., No. 28, p. 91), but the names of those nominated to (or in) the Common Council are not given.

marks, his wife's patrimony, and acquitted John Chichele, the Chamberlain, and Stephen Stichemersshe and the latter's sureties, viz., Stephen Forster, Thomas Barrey, Richard Werbulton, and John Riggis.

10 Feb., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445-6], came William Swan, John Stokker, Richard Chaundeler, William Rerysby, and John Kempstone, drapers, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Simon Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £140.

The same day the guardianship of John, Adam, Thomas, Dionisia, Margaret, and Johanna, children of Geoffrey Rook, late "hatter," together with the sum of £140, their patrimony, was committed by the said Mayor and Aldermen to the above William Swan, who had married Agnes, the said orphan's mother, he giving security as above.

18 Jan., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445-6], John Russell appointed by Simon Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to be one of the three Serjeants-at-mace to the Mayor.

Fo. 228 b. Friday, 16 Dec., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], William Marowe, grocer, having confessed before Simon Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen that he had bought from John de Boret "de lormestre" in "le Bay," 160 weys of salt "de le Bay,"[1] Stephen Jelyvet being the broker, and the salt being at the time in "le poole"; and it having been discovered that the said salt had been forestalled contrary to the custom of the City, it was ordered that the said salt should be forfeited to the use of the Sheriffs. Thereupon John Derby and Geoffrey Feldyng, the Sheriffs, seized 20 weys of the salt in a "lighter" at Billingesgate and sold it.

18 Jan., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445-6], John Asshe appointed a Mayor's Serjeant *loco* Ralph Vernon.

[1] Bay salt, a salt drawn from sea water, and, perhaps, more especially from the Bay of Biscay. Chambers's 'Cyclopædia' (1773), Supplement, vol. ii., *s.v.* 'Salt.' Cf. a vessel "comming with salt from the Bay" (of Biscay?). Stow, 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), ii. 10.

Indenture of grant by John Chichele, the Chamberlain, to Richard Marcheford and Richard Brinktone, of the passage (*Passagium*)[1] of barges between Billingesgate and Gravesend for a term of twelve years, at an annual payment of £8. Dated 1 Feb., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445-6].

28 July, 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446], came John Randolf, an orphan of full age, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Simon Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for the money bequeathed to him by Michael Randolf his father.

[Fo. 229 *blank*.]

Grant by Roger Keys, Rector of the church of St. Dunstan in the East, Robert Cristemasse and Bartholomew James, churchwardens of the same, to Henry Frowyk, the Mayor, the Aldermen, the Chamberlain, and Commonalty of the City, of a tenement called "le Horsmylle," in Graschirchstrete in the parish of St. Peter upon Cornhulle, devised to the Rector, &c., of the said church of St. Dunstan by the will of William Baret, dated 7 Sept., A.D. 1408,[2] for an annual payment to the Rector, &c., of the said church of £4, the said grant being made in view of the public granary proposed to be erected by Simon Eyre, draper, at Ledenhalle. Dated 12 March, A.D. 1444[-5].[3] Fo. 229 b.

[Fo. 230 *blank*.]

Tuesday, 18 Jan., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445-6], grant by Simon Eyre, the Mayor, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broun, Robert Cloptone, John Hatherle, Thomas Catworth, Thomas Chaltone, William Coumbes, William Wetenhale, John Olney, John Norman, Robert Horne, and John Derby, Aldermen, to Ralph Vernon, gent[leman], one of the Serjeants-at-mace of the Mayor, of an annual fee of 40*s*. and two gowns of the livery of the Mayor for the time being; and further, he is to have food and drink in the house of the Mayor for the time being, and for Fo. 230 b.

[1] Payment for passage of barges between the places named. There were Wardens of passage (*custodes passagii*) in the Port of London. 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 8.

[2] Proved and enrolled in the Husting in January, 1413. See 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 396.

[3] Cf. Stow, 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 153; ii. 295.

the honour of the City, and not on account of any office (*non racione alicujus officii*), he shall bear his mace when, and as often as, he will, before the Mayor, in manner accustomed, so long as his strength permits.

Fo. 231. Monday, 26 Aug., 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446], grant by Simon Eyre, the Mayor, and the Aldermen to Richard Power, Esquire and Swordbearer of the Mayor, of a reward of 40*s.* for his services in connexion with the Queen's Coronation.[1] It was further granted that he should have a yearly allowance of 20*s.* towards the rent of a house until a suitable house be provided for him. The grant was not to be treated as a precedent.

Fo. 231 b. 17 June, 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446], petition to the Common Council by John Croxtone, a mason, as follows:—

"Besechetch full mekely youre continuell servaunt John Croxtone, masone, that where he hath done hys true diligence and laboure in attendaunce upone alle the werkes of thys Cytee and specially upone the werkes of the Guyldhalle by xxx yere and more and there in spended hys yonge age in wych service there is yet due to him by yow of wages paide oute of hys purce to divers werkmen in the tyme that Brykles and Blysworth weren Clerkes of the same werkes viij*li.* ij*s.* and sythen that tyme in attendaunce daily upone your werkes by vj yere and more aboute the foundementez & reisyng of yo^{r} chapell at Guyldhalle and purveying for the ordenaunce and Counseille of the mooldes þ'e of and upone youre werkes at Padyngtone, Tybourne, Trippeswelle,[2] Charyngcrosse, Crosse in Chepe, and other places and had never ony wages fee or reward of yow for alle hys longe service savyng onely a litell hous and xx*s.* by yere and hys clothyng yerely That it please unto youre good graces in considerac'on of the long service of youre seid besecher so done And by the grace of god yf it like yow for the terme of hys lyf shall doo, to graunte unto him youre paiment of the seid viij*li.* ij*s.* and also for the terme of hys lyf xl*s.* more yerely of

[1] The coronation of Margaret of Anjou took place on Sunday, 30 May, 1445.

[2] Every effort has been made to localize this well, but without success.

Fee to the seid xx*s*. to be takene yerely by the hands of youre Chamb'leyn for the tyme beyng at the festes of Nativite of Seint John Baptist Mighelmasse Cristmasse and Esterne be even porc'ons & he shall pray to god for yow."

His prayer granted.

[Fo. 232 *blank*.]

Wednesday, 21 Sept., 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446], in the presence of Simon Eyre, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Henry Frowik, John Gedney, Stephen Broun, William Coumbes, William Gregory, John Olney, Nicholas Wifold, John Derby, Robert Horne, Thomas Canynges, Geoffrey Feldyng, and Thomas Scot, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, Robert Horne, Alderman, was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Geoffrey Boleyn was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty. Fo. 232 b.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain for the year ensuing; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and John Herst, skinner, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and Stephen Forster and Thomas Canynges, Aldermen, and Thomas Cook, junior, Thomas Haukyns, Alan Johnson, and Richard Lee, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the Chamber and the said Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Thursday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], the same year, in the presence of Simon Eyre, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Henry Frowik, John Gedney, Stephen Broune, Robert Cloptone, John Pattesle, John Hatherle, Thomas Chaltone, John Olney, William Wetenhale, John Suttone, William Coumbes, John Norman, Nicholas Wifold, and Robert Horne, Aldermen, Geoffrey Boleyn, one of the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, John Olney, by aid of the Holy Spirit,

was elected. Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 233. 12 Dec., 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446], came good men of the Mistery of Hostelers into the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Olney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented a petition as follows :—

"To the honourable lord' wyse & worchipfull sires the Maire and Aldermen of the Cyte London

"Please it un to youre Wyse discrecions in considerac'on of the grete mischief & hurt whych that oft tyme fallene & happene þorugh riotours haserdours & other worse mys-governed people whyche that bene luskyng a boute in thys Cyte and dayly repayryng ther to that arne harboured wyth diverse folk men & wemen not enfraunchised nor otherwise charged with contribucions of thys Cyte & not havyng opene signes & some in vicious howses called Stewes and some harboured wyth alienes and straungers beyng such people so harboured not knawyng whens they come not havyng eny goodes to lyve by and bene gret Wastoures and Spenders to grete disceit & hurt of owre soveraygne lord & of alle the commen people of thys Realme and in especialle of thys Cite To graunt there fore as for the remedie there of to the people enfraunchised in the craft[1] of Hostillers of thys Cyte of Londone the pointes after folwyng that is to sey

"First that the Wardeyns of the same Craft have liberte & poware to serche alle maner persones holdyng co'e hostrie havyng wyth hem eny maner gestes or straungiers comyng to

[1] This appears to be the first occasion on which the English word "craft" is applied in the Letter-Books to a mistery or occupation such as that of Hostelers. Mr. George Unwin, however, in his recent work on 'The Gilds and Companies of London' (p. 62), states that there was practically no distinction between a craft, art, or mistery; that a craft "signified a trade or calling generally, and the typical member of a craft was a well-to-do shopkeeper, a tradesman"; and again, that "the full master of a craft was from the first always a trader."

the Cite & suche gestes or people as they fynd wyth hem not of good rule or good name or fame to enforme the Maier of thys Cyte or Chamb'leyn for the tyme being for to do correcc'on aswell upon the harberers of hem as upon them that bene suche gestes evell named

"Also that no persone of the said Cite take upone him to hold eny comune hostry or to be a comune herberour of eny people repayryng to thys Cyte but that he have a comon' & an opene sygne w^{t}oute & at his place & that he be knowen of good name and good fame by the Wardeynes & other persones of the same craft to occupie the said occupac'on and they truly to present and truly to do ther in w^{t}out eny favour or malice

"Also that no persone dwellyng in the Cite holdyng comune hostry & opene signe not herborwe nor resceyve eny mane aliene or straunger borne out of thys realme comyng to thys Cite in no wyse o lesse than the same persone present & bring a fore the Maire for the tyme beyng every suche aliene or straunger comyng un to thys Cite w^{t}inne a day & a night after that he be come to the entente that the Maire may have knowleche of the cause of his comyng & of his abydyng upon a competent peyne ther upon to be ordeyned & sett & duly to be arreised of what persone that breketh the saied ordinaunce or do the contrarie therof for the grete availe honeste & profite of thys Cite & alle the realme upon peyne for to lese vj*s.* viij*d.* atte first tyme, xiij*s.* iiij*d.* atte secund tyme and xx*s.* at the iij tyme half to the Chaumbre of the Guyldhall & half to the said craft of hostillers and so forth doweblyng the somme as oft tyme as they schall be found doyng the contrarie

"Also that no maner man holdyng comone hostrie w^{t}in the said Cite resceive nor take eny servaunt hostiler which that hath bene dwellyng afore tyme w^{t} eny persone occupying the said craft in cas the said servaunt hostiller have bene detecte or found vicious or untrewe to his maister a fore tyme occupying the said craft or to eny of his gestis

"Also that alle maner persones enfraunchised in the said Craft be ruled & governed after the good ordinaunces & rules

in the same Craft by youre graunt & assent ordeyned & devised for the comone wele of the kynges liege people & availle of the said craft & that every man enfrauncheised of the same craft be obedient to the Wardeyns of the same craft for the tyme being & come at their sommons at alle tymes at place & tyme limited under peyne to paie to the use of the said craft at every tyme that they lakke or be absent the value of j pound wax half to the Chaumbre of the Guyldhalle & half to the Fraternite of Seint Julian saving the Frauncheise of the Cite."

Their petition granted.

Fo. 233 b. Precept for levying in each Ward a fourth part of a fifteenth granted in a Common Council held on the 20th August, anno 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445], for the use of the common aqueduct. [No date.]

Precept for holding an armed watch in the several Wards at Christmas to continue until further orders. [No date.][1]

18 Nov., 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446], petition by John West, "plummer," to the Common Council, that an indenture may be made confirming to him a former grant to the effect that he should "entend to the werkes of the newe condites and of the chambre of thys Citee and do his trewe labour and diligence ther inne and to leve ther fore all other occupac'ons" at a wage prescribed; and further, that he should have two gowns of the Mayor's livery for the time being, and that he should not be put on inquests, &c.

His petition granted.

Wednesday, 1 March, 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446-7], William Andrewe, one of the Mayor's Serjeants-at-mace, admitted one of the Mayor's Serjeants of the Chamber, *loco* William Stork, deceased.

Fo. 234. Monday, 12 Nov., 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446], came Henry Dukmantone, John Broddesworth, John Lambard, and Thomas

[1] The watch was probably the one kept at Christmas, 1446, of which Gregory writes ('Chron.,' pp. 187-8): "that same yere there was grete wache at Syn Donstonys in the Este, by the sofferens of oure sufferayne lorde the Kyng, in every warde of London alle the xvj dayes in Crystysmasse by the commaundement of the Kynge."

Niche, mercers, and John Billesdone, draper, into the Court of the lord the King, before John Olney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 500 marks for the payment of the said sum by the said Henry Dukmantone to John, son of Thomas Dukmantone, when he comes of age.

Proclamation.

"Be it proclamed on oure soveraygn lord the Kynges behalve in eschwyng of the Importable hurtes & gret parell of Fyre that dayly is lykly to growe wyth in thys Cyte whych god defend by the makyng repairyng & susteynyng of treene[1] chymneys wyth in thys said Cite which be not sufficiant nor able to eschwe the gret peryll of Fyre that what maner of persone wyth in thys Cite enfrauncheised as masoun, carpenter, or other of what condic'on that he be, after the fest of Seint Mighell tharchaungell next for to come be found or seene to make repaire or susteygn eny such treene chymney wyth in thys Cyte or the Frauncheise of the same that he forfaite & pay unto the use of the cominalte of the same for a fyne xx*s*. wyth out redempcion as oft tymes as he therof shall lawfully be convict. Fo. 234 b.

"And also that no maner persone wyth in thys Cite nor the Frauncheise of the same dwellyng Fremane or foreyn after the said fest of Seint Mighell do make nor susteyn eny maner fyre in eny maner suche treene chymney upon peyne to pay un to the use of the same cominalte v*js*. viij*d*. wyth out redempc'on as oft tymes as he shall ther of be convict.

"Be it purveyed alway that Goldsmythes, Copersmythes, lorimers, bladsmithes, blaksmythes & Ferrours of thys Cite may laufully have & occupie such treene chymneys well and sufficiantly repaired to theire craftes nedfulle & belongyng and them to make or do make & repaire when necessite shalle require it wyth out eny interrupc'on enpechement or fyne ther for to be made in eny wyse this present ordinaunce not withstondyng."

[1] Made of wood.

12 Jan., 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446-7], grant by John Olney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, that Richard Power, esquire and sword-bearer to the Mayor, may have a suitable servant to wait upon the Mayor, for the time being, and himself, like other Serjeants-at-mace. The grant not to become a precedent.

Fo. 235. Monday, 3 April, 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], Thomas Smyth, "irmonger," discharged by John Olney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Monday, 19 June, the same year, John Valentyne, "hurer," similarly discharged for like cause.

Fo. 235 b. Letter from Charles [VII.], King of France, to his very dear and great friends [the Mayor, &c., of London], notifying the dispatch of ambassadors to his nephew, the King of England, for the purpose of effecting a perfect union between England and France, and asking them to use their influence to that end. Dated at Mehun sur "Eure," 2 May [A.D. 1447?].[1]

18 Dec., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], came Thomas Shirwinde, Thomas Onhand, Augustine Strattone, and Walter Durward, mercers, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Gedney, the Mayor,[2] and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, for the payment of a sum of £47 10*s.* to Johanna, daughter of Robert Hulle, late grocer, by the said Thomas Shirwinde, who had been appointed her guardian.

Fo. 236. 22 Aug., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], came Thomas Bele, tailor, John Pye, "stacioner," John Grove, "scrivener," Richard Tolle and William Rogers, tailors, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £6 13*s.* 4*d.*

[1] This is the date assigned (with some hesitation) by Jules Delpit, who sets out the letter in full (*op. cit.*, p. 263). On the 1st April, 1447, the truce between England and France had expired. Ramsay, 'Lancaster and York,' ii. 70. Monstrelet (Engl. transl.), ii. 144.

[2] His election not recorded in the Letter-Book.

The same day the guardianship of John, son of John Mundeford, late tailor, together with his patrimony of £6 13*s.* 4*d.*, was committed by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain to the above Thomas Bele on his finding the above security.

5 April, 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], in the presence of John Gedney, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, John Suttone, William Wetenhale, John Norman, Robert Horne, John Derby, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Scott, William Abraham, and Philip "Malepas," Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty, John Tyler, "gentilman," was elected Common Hunt of the City, *vice* John Russell, he receiving yearly the sum of £10 and his clothing.

25 Oct., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], John Colion, "girdeler," discharged by John Olney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries owing to increasing old age. Fo. 236 b.

The same day Richard Coyfote, "peintour," similarly discharged for like cause.

24 Oct., the same year, Richard Lumley, "peautrer," similarly discharged for like cause.

25 Oct., the same year, John Glyse, "hatter," similarly discharged for like cause.

[The upper part of this folio has been cut off. Delpit (*op. cit.*, p. 264) suggests that the reply of the City to the letter from Charles of France (*supra*, fo. 235 b) may have been entered on the folio and removed *par un motif quelconque, mais à une époque déjà ancienne*. That the French antiquary was wrong in his surmise is shown by the next entry.]

Whereas a certain ordinance made by John Olney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen on the petition of the Master and Wardens of the Mistery of Drapers touching the scrutiny of linen cloths and yards called "metierdes" or "metyerdes" had been recorded on fo. ccxxxvii of this Letter-Book K, but had been surreptitiously cut and taken away; the Master and Wardens of the said Mistery on the 15th Oct., anno 2 Henry VIII. [A.D. 1510], came before William Capell, Knt. and Mayor, John Tate, Knt., Thomas Kneseworth, Richard Haddone, Knt., Laurence Aylmer, Fo. 237.

Knt., Stephen Jenyns, Knt., William Copynger, John Warner, William Butler, Thomas Exmewe, Thomas Mirfyne, James Yarford, John Bruges, John Rest, and John Mylbourne, Aldermen, and brought a certain black book belonging to the said Mistery in which the said ordinance was entered, and they prayed that the said ordinance might be again inscribed in Letter-Book K.

Their prayer granted, and the said ordinance made on Friday, 6 Oct., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], in the presence of John Olney, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Simon Eyre, William Coumbes, John Norman, John Suttone, William Gregory, Nicholas Wyfolde, Stephen Forster, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Derby, William Cantlowe, Thomas Scott, and William Abraham, Aldermen, was again inscribed.[1]

Fo. 237 b. 5 Oct., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], grant by the Mayor and Aldermen to William Coumbes, Alderman, of lands and tenements formerly belonging to John Reynwelle, late Alderman, in the town of Calais, in recognition of his services in the execution of the will of the said John Reynwelle, who devised property in the City of London and the said town of Calais to the use of the Commonalty of the said City; to hold the same for a term of thirty years at an annual rent of 6 marks.

[Fo. 238 *blank*.]

Fo. 238 b. 12 Jan., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447-8], Richard Ponten', citizen and "septer,"[2] discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries owing to increasing old age.

24 Feb., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447-8], John Levgor, tailor, similarly discharged for like cause.

Eleccio Vicecomit'. 21 Sept., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], in the presence of John Olney, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broune, William

[1] The Drapers had occasion in 1441 to complain to the Mayor and Aldermen that the Tailors interfered with them in the execution of their right of search; the dispute ended then in a compromise. *Vide supra*, pp. 259-60.

[2] Possibly=a gaoler, or officer, who put irons (*cippi*) on prisoners.

Coumbes, John Gedney, Simon Eyre, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, John Sutton, John Norman, Nicholas Wifold, Robert Horne, Stephen Forster, John Derby, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Scot, and William Abraham, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, William Abraham, Alderman, was elected one of the Sheriffs of the City by the Mayor, and Thomas Scot, Alderman, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and John Herst, skinner, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and John Norman, Thomas Canynges, Aldermen, Alan Johnson, Richard Lee, John Stokker, and John Harowe, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Monday, 18 Sept., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], John Olney, Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Stephen Broun, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, William Gregory, Thomas Chaltone, John Sutton, John Norman, Nicholas Wyfold, John Derby, Robert Horne, Stephen Forster, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Scot, and William Abraham, Aldermen:— Fos. 239-41.

On the above day, and in the presence of the above Mayor, two bonds were entered into, each in the sum of £200, one by John Balle and John Lambe, Wardens of the Mistery of Brouderers, and the other by John Sewale, sometime Warden of the said Mistery, binding themselves to abide by the award to be given by Nicholas Wifold and John Derby, Aldermen, who had been accepted as arbitrators in all matters of dispute existing between the said John Balle and John Lambe, John Mounsell, John Cursone, Walter Whitebrede, William Whitebrede, Elys London, William Kyrkeby, John Vyaunt, Henry Wyche, Thomas Halle, John Bourgh, William Skynner, Thomas Howell, William Acton, Robert Page, John Colence, Thomas

Newe, William Outkampe, and all others of the same craft of Brouderers on the one part, and the said John Sewale on the other part.[1]

Fo. 241. Friday, 13 Oct., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], in the presence of John Olney, the Mayor, the Prior of Christchurch, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Henry Frowik, John Gedney, Stephen Broun, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, William Coumbes, John Suttone, John Norman, William Wetenhale, Nicholas Wifold, Stephen Forster, Robert Horne, John Derby, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Canynges, William Cantlowe, Thomas Scot, and William Abraham, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, John Gedney was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

3 Nov., 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], came John Waryn, goldsmith, and Nicholas Preest, grocer, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Olney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £17, for the due payment of such sum to William Dyst, son of Gyse van Dyst, late goldsmith, on his coming of age.

Fo. 241 b. 5 April, 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], Richard Aleyn, cook, discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

27 July, the same year, Thomas Redyng, "powchemaker," similarly discharged for like cause.

7 Aug., the same year, came Thomas Grenehille, "pasteler," executor of John Fysshe, late "pasteler," John Stockwell and Richard Tykerych, "pastelers," Roger Estone and Walter

[1] The "Warde" (award) of the Arbitrators, dealing mainly with accounts between the parties, is set out at considerable length. It is followed by "The Recorde of Fulfilling and performing of the Warde aforesaid by John Sewale, Brouderer of London."

Taillour, "cowpers," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged themselves bound to John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 20 marks.

The same day the guardianship of Alice and Elizabeth, daughters of the above John Fysshe, together with their patrimony of 20 marks, was committed by the said Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain to the above Thomas Grenehille, on his finding the above security.

Officium co'is venat'.

Friday, 5 April, 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], John Tyler appointed by John Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Common Council to the office of Common Hunt of the City, receiving a yearly fee of £10 and the clothing or livery of the City in the same manner as Serjeants of the Chamber receive it.

Fo. 242.

2 Oct., 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], John Birlyng, goldsmith, discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from sitting on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

7 Sept., 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], came Thomas Grenehille, "pasteler," executor of John Fysshe, late "pasteler," John Stokwelle and Richard Tykeryche, "pastelers," Roger Estone and Walter Taillour, "cowpers," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Chichele, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 100 marks, to the effect that the said Thomas Grenehille would sell, within the next seven years, a certain tenement formerly belonging to the said John Fysshe, in the parish of All Hallows de Bredestrete, and pay the proceeds into Court to be disposed of according to the last will of the said John Fysshe.

Fo. 242 b.

24 Sept., 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], petition by Richard "Cawdre," Rector of the church of St. Botolph without Aldrichgate, and Dean of the free chapel of St. Martin le Grand,[1] to John

[1] The Rectory, which had been in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of St. Martin-le-Grand, became appropriated by the latter in 1399. It was this Richard "Cawdray" who had defended so stubbornly the immunity of the precinct of St. Martin-le-Grand from the jurisdiction of the civic authorities in 1440, and won the day. *Supra*, pp. 241-6.

Gedney, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty in Common Council assembled, that a certain parcel of land might be granted to the said Rector and his successors for the enlargement of the said church. His petition granted.

Fo. 243. 26 Oct., 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], John Norys, "couper," discharged by John Gedney, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Electio Vicecomit'. The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], in the presence of John Gedney, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broune, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Coumbes, William Gregory, John Suttone, John Norman, Robert Horne, John Derby, Geoffrey Feldyng, Stephen Forster, Thomas Canynges, William Abraham, Thomas Scot, William Cantlowe, and Philip Malpas, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, William Marowe was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and William Cantlowe, Alderman, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Chichele, grocer, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and John Herst, skinner, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; John Norman and Geoffrey Feldyng, Aldermen, John Stokker, John Harowe, John Waldene, and Thomas Oulegreve, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented and admitted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

11 Nov., 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], receipt of the King's writ, dated 19 May anno 22 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444], by Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, bidding them discharge John Lemynge from serving on juries, &c., if he be found to be over seventy years of age. Discharged accordingly.

Fo. 243 b. 6 Dec., 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], John Werk, goldsmith, discharged by Stephen Broune, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 244. Sunday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], in the presence of John Gedney, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broune, John Pattesle, John Hatherle, Thomas Catworth, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, John Suttone, William Wetenhale, William Coumbes, John Norman, Stephen Forster, Robert Horne, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Derby, Thomas Scot, Thomas Canynges, William Abraham, William Cantlowe, and Philip Malpas, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Stephen Broune was elected Mayor.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

15 Feb., 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448-9], came Thomas, son of Thomas Byset, "Pynner," before Stephen Broune, the Mayor and the Aldermen, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Pynners," *temp.* Simon Eyre, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 21st March, anno 24 Henry VI. [A.D. 1445-6], he had long used, and was now using, the mistery of "Haberdasshers," and not the mistery of "Pynners." He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the Mistery of "Haberdasshers." His prayer granted at the instance of good men of the said Mistery.

Fo. 244 b. 4 March, 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448-9], John Derby, saddler, discharged by Stephen Broune, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Indenture witnessing that John Chichele, the Chamberlain, had received from Robert Cristemasse, executor of William Halle, certain deeds relating to lands in Krayford[1] belonging to Cristiane, Margery, and Julyan, daughters of the said William. Dated 12 May, 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449].

[1] Crayford, co. Kent.

28 April, 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449], John Whyte, "tymbermonger," discharged by Stephen Broune, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

6 Aug., 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449], John Colvyle, "taillour," similarly discharged for like cause.

15 March, 27 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448-9], came William, son of John Aleyn, late vintner, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Broune, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and, being of full age, acknowledged that he had received from John Chichele, the Chamberlain, his patrimony of £40, together with silver plate, comprising spoons, salt cellars, and a second best standing cup with cover, called "xij mouthes."[1]

Fo. 245. 20 Oct., 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449], came Thomas Queny, Reginald Darlington, fishmongers, John Lynde, "joynour," and John Pygot, fishmonger, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Broun, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Middelton, the Chamberlain,[2] in the sum of £40.

The above bond to be void if the said Thomas Queny, who married Johanna, the widow of Robert Brigge, late grocer, or any one on his behalf, pay the said sum into the Court of the City Chamberlain as soon as Margaret, daughter of the said Robert, shall have come of age.

Eleccio Vicecomit'. The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449], in the presence of Stephen Broune, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, Henry Frowik, John "Alderley,"[3] Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, John Suttone, William Coumbes, William Whetenhalle, John Norman, Robert Horne, Stephen Forster, John Derby, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Scot, William Cantelow, William Abraham, and

[1] "Secundam meliorem stant' et coopert' vocat' xij mouthes." Probably a silver flower-holder with twelve orifices or mouths in the cover.

[2] Mercer, as is seen in the record of his election which immediately follows. Sheriff, 1450-1; Alderman of Farringdon Without, 1456-8, and of Bread Street Ward, 1458-62.

[3] Mistake for "Atherley" or "Hatherley."

William Marow, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, William Hulyn was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Thomas Canynges, Alderman, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Middeltone, mercer, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and Thomas Davy, tailor, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and Geoffrey Feldyng, John Derby, Aldermen, John Waldeyn, Thomas Wolgreve, John Middelton, and John Yonge, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Friday, 10 Oct., 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449], a re-enactment of ordinance (recorded *supra*, p. 182) touching Piecers and Cobblers (*Picticiarii* and *Cobularii*). Fo. 245 b. *Coblers.*

4 March, 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449-50], came Ralph Vernay, John Sturgeone, John Penne, John Kirkeby, and John Barby, mercers, into the Court of the lord the King, before Thomas Chaltone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Middeltone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £200. Fo. 246.

The above bond to be void on condition the said Ralph Vernay pay into the Court of the Chamberlain for the time being the like sum of £200 to the use of Katherine, daughter of John Goodsone, late mercer, as soon as she comes of age or marries, the said money being the orphan's patrimony and the said Ralph being her appointed guardian.

Monday the Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449], in the presence of Stephen Broune, the Mayor, Robert Danvers the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Henry Frowyk, John Pattesley, John Hatherley, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, John Suttone, William Coumbes, William Whetenhall, John Norman, Stephen Forster, John Derby, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Scot, William Cantelow, Thomas Canynges, William *Eleccio Maior'.*

Abraham, Philip Malpas, and William Marow, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Thomas Chaltone, Alderman, was elected Mayor by the favour of the Holy Spirit.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 246 b. *Carta de Haburdasshers.*

18 March, 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449-50], came the Wardens of the Mistery of Haberdashers into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Thomas Chaltone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and produced certain letters patent dated at Westminster, 3 June, 26 Henry VI. [A.D. 1448], granting licence to the men of the Mistery of Haberdashers in the City to establish a Guild or Fraternity in honour of St. Katherine, and to elect four Wardens to govern the same whenever necessary, the said Wardens and the brethren and sisters of the Fraternity having a yearly livery of clothing of one suit and keeping festival on St. Katherine's Day [25 Nov.]; and further, that the said Fraternity be a perpetual corporation capable of holding lands and tenements, and having a common seal, and that the said Wardens and their successors have full right of search in the said mistery and everything appertaining to it, &c.

Fo. 247. *Pro civib' Parliamenti.*

Wednesday, 1 April, 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450], ordinance by Thomas Chaltone, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty that thenceforth the citizens elected for the present Parliament, now adjourned from Westminster to the town of Leicestre,[1] as also all others to be elected in future to any Parliament, shall receive from the Chamberlain for their expenses the sum of 40*s.* a day, so long as Parliament continue to sit in some place remote from the City; the pay to commence from the day they set out from

[1] Met on the 29th April. The names of the City members are recorded in Journal 5 (fo. 47 b), under date 2 Oct., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450], as Henry Frowik, William Marowe, Aldermen; Richard Lee and John Harowe, Commoners.

the City, and to continue until their reasonable return to the City, after the rising of Parliament, without deceit or fraud.

It was further ordained that all fees for enrolments of apprentices and admissions to the freedom, also all fees for enrolment of deeds and wills, should be doubled from the 1st April aforesaid until the end of May, and thenceforward for one whole year, in order to meet the Parliamentary expenses of the citizens.[1]

13 Nov., 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1449], came John Rokesle, John Tyngelden, Thomas Gybbes, and Nicholas Priest, grocers, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Thomas Chaltone, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Middeltone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £20 for the payment of a like sum by the said John Rokesle to the Chamberlain for the time being in the year 1455, the said money being the property of John, son of Alexander Anne, late Recorder, of whom he had been appointed guardian, and whom he had received as an apprentice.

Writ to Thomas Chaltone, the Mayor, John Fastolf, Knt., and Thomas Tirell, Knt., Thomas Catworth, John Fray, Henry Frowik, John Olney, William Coumbes, Robert Danvers, William Marowe, and William Cantelowe, and the Sheriffs of the City, touching a grant made in the last Parliament held at Westminster [*sic*] of a graduated tax on incomes arising from lands, tenements, offices, &c.[2] [ends abruptly]. Fo. 247 b.

[Fos. 248, 248 b *blank.*]

The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450], in the presence of Thomas Chaltone, the Mayor, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broune, John Hatherle, Thomas Catworth, Simon Eyre, John Olney, John Pattesle, William Coumbes, William Whetenhale, John Norman, Robert Horne, Stephen Forster, Nicholas Wyfold, John Derby, Geoffrey Fo. 249. *Eleccio Vic' etc.*

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 292.

[2] As a matter of fact, the grant was made by the adjourned Parliament sitting at Leicester. Only a small portion of the grant (recorded in full in 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 172-4) is recorded here, the folios on which the remainder should have been entered being left blank.

Feldyng, Thomas Scot, Thomas Canynges, William Cantelowe, William Abraham, William Marowe, William Hulyn, and Matthew Phelip, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, William Dere was elected one of the Sheriffs of London by the Mayor, and John Middeltone was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Sturgeon, mercer, was elected Chamberlain;[1] Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and Thomas Davy, tailor, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; John Derby and William Cantelowe, Aldermen, John Yonge, William Gregory, junior, Thomas Gay, and John Feld, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 249 b. Grant by Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, and the Commonalty to William Wetenhale, Alderman, late one of the Wardens of London Bridge, of an annual rent of £20 for a term of five years, charged on the tenement called "le Stokkes," in the parish of St. Mary Wolchirch, and other tenements in the parish of St. Magnus upon London Bridge and elsewhere, in repayment of disbursements made by him when in office as Warden of the Bridge. Dated 6 Nov., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450].

Eleccio Maioris. Tuesday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450], in the presence of Thomas Chaltone, the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder,[2] the Prior of Christchurch,

[1] In place of John Middelton, elected Sheriff.

[2] His election is recorded in Journal 5 (fo. 46 b) as having taken place on St. Matthew's Day (21 Sept.) last, with a memorandum in the margin to the effect that the Recorder was elected by the Mayor and Aldermen. He is noted in Beaven's 'Aldermen of London' (p. 272) as having sat as a member for the City in the Parliament of Feb., 1449. He had been appointed Common Serjeant of the City 5 Oct., 1444 (Journal 4, fo. 9); was created a Serjeant-at-law in 1453; resigned the Recordership in 1454 (Journal 5, fo. 196); appointed King's Serjeant in 1456; Justice of the King's Bench 1464, and Chief Justice in 1469 (Haydn, 'Dignities').

Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broune, Thomas Catworth, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, William Gregory, William Coumbes, William Whetenhale, John Norman, Nicholas Wyfold, Robert Horne, John Derby, Stephen Forster, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Scot, William Abraham, William Cantelowe, William Marowe, William Hulyn, and Matthew Philip, Aldermen, William Dere and John Middeltone, the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Nicholas Wyfold, Alderman, by the grace of the Holy Spirit was elected Mayor, and afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

25 Feb., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450-1], came the Masters and Wardens and good men of the Mistery of Barbers into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented a petition that certain ordinances[1] might be approved and recorded. Their prayer granted. Fo. 250. *Ordinacio Barbitonsor'.*

4 Dec., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450], came Bartholomew Bremsham, John Adys, William Rothele, John Bangore, and Henry Benet, goldsmiths, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Sturgeone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £40, for the payment of a like sum by the said Bartholomew Bremsham to Jocosa and Beatrix, daughters of Bertraund Sauns, late vintner, the said money being the patrimony of the said orphans, of whom the said Bartholomew had been appointed guardian. Fo. 250 b.

Monday, 3 Aug., 28 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450], came the Master and Wardens and many other good men of the Mistery of Armourers and presented a petition as follows:— Fo. 251.

[1] The ordinances which follow have been printed in full in Sidney Young's 'Annals of the Barber-Surgeons,' pp. 44-7.

"Unto the full honourables lord the Maire Aldermen and Cominalte of the Citee of London

Armorers. "Besecheth unto youre grete wisdoms the Maister and the Wardeins of the craft of Armorers of the said Citee tenderly to considre that where it was ordeyned for the grete profitte and wele of the Kyng and of his liege people and enrolled in the Chaumbre of the Yeldhall of the forsaid Citee in the xxj yeere of the reign of Kyng Edward the iij[de] as in the book of F the cxlij [b] leef[1] more pleinly is contened that hewmerie and other armure that is forged wyth the hamur brought from beyonde the see or other place to be solde wythin the said Citee shuld not from that tyme foreward in no maner wise be putte to sale prevy or appert till they were covenably assayed by the Wardeyns of the said craft and merked with here merke on peyne to forfeit the hewmerie and armure so otherwise put to sale, The contrarie of which article nowe dayly is laboured and done unto the grete hurt of the Kyng and his liege people, and grete disclaundre unto the said craft of armorers, That it please youre grete wisdoms the premisses tenderly considered to provide and ordeyne that the said Maister and Wardeins of the said craft of armorers that nowe been and here after shall be may have the serche and assaye of all manere hewmerie and armure that is forged wyth the hamur accordyng to the article aforesaid and as they bene sworne every yeere afore the Maire for to doo."

On the 18th Feb., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450-1], the above petition agreed to by the Mayor and Aldermen, with the proviso that thenceforth the search of armour should be made by the Master and Wardens of the Mistery of Armourers in conjunction with two Wardens (or at least one) of any other Mistery having a similar right of search, if they wished to join in the search, and that they should make the search accompanied by a Serjeant-at-mace either of the Mayor or of the Chamber of the Guildhall.[2]

Fo. 231 b. 30 March, 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], came the Wardens and other good men of the Misteries of "Lethersellers" and

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book F,' p. 169. | [2] Cf. Journal 5, fo. 54 b.

Glovers into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented a petition setting forth that members of the said Misteries often encroached upon each other's work, and would not obey the search of the Wardens of the craft to which they did not belong, and praying that certain ordinances for better regulating the search of their respective crafts might be approved.[1] Their petition granted.

6 April, 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], came the Master and Wardens and many other good men of the Mistery of Cordwainers into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented a petition as follows:— Fo. 252.

"To the full Worshipful lord and Souverayns the Maire and Aldremen of the Citee of London

"Besechene full mekely the Maister and Wardeins and alle the persones enfraunchised in the craft or mistier of Cordewaners wythin this Citee that howe be it diverse and many of the kynges lieges in sondry parties of this his Roialme borne repairene unto this Citee and here bindene theim apprentices unto diverse persones enfraunchised of the said craft, Trustyng therby to have and enjoye the Fraunchise and libertees of this Citee after the tyme of their said apprentisehode and to have occupacion in the said mistier, Wherwyth they shuld mowe trewely gete theire levyng yet what for the greet nombre and multitude of aliauntes and straungiers of sondry nacions repayring unto this Citee which beene comonly suffred and resceived to occupie and werke in the said craft by the day, the woke, or the moneth, as it pleaseth hem best And what for that, that diverse persones aliauntes and estraungers borne afore this tyme admitted unto the Fraunchise of this Citee in the said craft of Cordewaners for the grete love and favour that they naturelly have and bere unto aliauntes of such nacions as they beene of will not in eny wise have occupie ne sette awerke *Cordwaners.*

[1] The petition is set out in full in Black's 'Hist. of the Leathersellers' Company' (pp. 30-1) from the Letter-Book.

in the said craft eny maner Englisshman of the kynges lieges, Wherthourgh that many of the said persones that have beene apprentice in the said craft and therby admitted unto the Fraunchese of this Citee not of power forthwyth to holde houses or shoppes w^t^in this Citee ne canne gete ne have occupacion ne werke werwyth to gete their levyng in the same craft drawen them unto Blanchapultone[1] Westminstre and other suspect places and there be comone vagrantes riotours Strumpetmongers and theves unto evell exaumple of alle the yonge people of this Citee, and many for defaute of such werk and occupacion withdrawe them in to other parties of the lond and there leven in grete poverte unto the grete hurt of the kynges lieges That please it youre grete wisdoms in consideracion of the premises, It may be ordeigned enact and enrolled in the Chaumber of the Guyldhall of the Citee aforeseid for the wele and grete prouffit of alle the personnes now being enfraun-cheised in the said craft and which hereafter shall be, That no manere persone so nowe being enfrauncheised in the seid craft and which hereafter shall be except oonly the straungiers aliens that nowe been enfrauncheised in the same putt nor sett from hens forth eny persone being straungier alien born out of this land not enfrauncheised in this Citee on werk in the seid craft in eny manere wise, and in caas that eny persone nowe being enfrauncheised in the said craft or which hereafter shall be except oonly afore except be lawefully convict of doing the contrarie of the forsaid ordenaunce in eny manere wise, that he paye at every time so being convict of doing the contrarie of the said ordenaunce xl*s.* that one half therof to the use of the Chaumber of the Guyldhall aforesaid and that other half to the comone box of the said craft of Cordewaners in sustentacion and relevyng of the povere people of the same craft like as it is hadd & ordeigned for grete wele in other diverse craftes of this Citee

"Also that it may be ordeigned enact and enrolled in the

[1] A manor standing at the north-east corner of "Mart" (Mark) Lane, where Basket-makers, Wire-drawers, and other foreigners were permitted to hold shops.—Stow, 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 150, ii. 294.

forsaid Chaumber of Guyldhall that no manere persone nowe beyng enfraunchesed in the said craft ne which hereafter shall be from hens forthe resceive ne take eny maner persone to teche and enfourme him in the same craft, but that he take him as an apprentice by a peyre of endentures of apprentishode to be made betwene the maister and every suche persone after the rule (?) and ordinaunce of this Citee upon peyne of xl*s.* to be payed at every tyme by him that doth the contrarie That one half therof to the use of the forsaid chaumber of Guyldhall and that other half to the said comone box of the forsaid crafte of cordewaners in sustentacion and relevyng of the povere people of the same craft In asmoche as the contrarie of this article hathe bene before this tyme and is dayly used in the said craft to grete prejudice and hurt of the Fraunchise of this Citee."

Their petition granted, the Mayor and Aldermen reserving the power of amendment.

23 July, 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], came the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of Tailors and Linen Armourers of St. John the Baptist into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broune, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, John Norman, Robert Horne, John Derby, Geoffrey Feldyng, William Abraham, William Hulyn, Christopher Warter, and William Dere, Aldermen, and presented a petition, as follows :— Fo. 252 b.

"To the full honourables lord and souveraignes the Maire and Aldermen of the Citee of London

"Shewen to grete Wisdoms John Gille, Maister, Richard Rook, John Hill, John Spenser and John Weche, Wardeins of the Fraternite of Taillours and lynge armurers of Seint John Baptiste in the Citee of London and other of the said mistier howe that grete multitude of alientes and other Foreins of the said mistier come and resorte to this Citee and daiely sitt and werke openly in shoppes and upon Stalles wyth other men Fraunchised in the said mistier, Where as many and diverse other yonge men whych have served their termes of apprenticialite wythin the said Citee wolde be occupied and sett awerke

as servauntes wyth such other men frauncheised in the said mistier for competent wages as the custume of this Citee will require and they mowe not but as vacabundes or elles idel people under no rule ne gouvernance gone aboute wythin this Citee and often tymes falle on ryott and other misgouvernance to the grete hurt and undoyng of diverse such yonge men and disworship to this Citee that it please your grete wisdoms tenderly the premisses to consider and therupone to ordeign and graunte that what persone Fraunchised in the said mistier occupie or else sett a werke eny such said alient or other Forein persone in the said mistier wythin the Fraunchise of the said Citee but yef speciall licence atte tymes of necessite by the Maire or the Chaumberleyn of the same and the Maister and Wardeins of the said mistier orell' their successours that for the tyme shall be allway afore tymes be hadd pay to the Chaumberleyn of the Yeldhall for everich defaute doon to the contrarie *vs.* as it hath be acoustumed and used of olde tyme, that one half alway to remayn to the Chaumber of this Citee and that other half to the sustinaunce of the almesmen of the said Fraternitee

"And over that to ordeign and graunte that the maister and wardeins of the said Fraternite and mistier and their successours yeerly be charged and sworne be fore the Maire of this Citee well and trewely among other thinges to present unto the said chaumberleyn all the persones doyng eny such defautes in the said mistery contrarie to this ordinaunce as ferforth as they shall movve therof to have knoweleche or wetyng atte Reverence of god and in way of charite."

The petition granted, the Mayor and Aldermen reserving power of amendment, &c.

16 Aug., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], John Frankeleyn, tailor, discharged by Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 253. 2 Aug., the same year, William Walton, goldsmith, similarly discharged for like cause.

24 Dec., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450], came Robert Horne, fishmonger, John Coggeshale, fishmonger, Stephen Grene,

draper, William Lightholders, mercer, and William Lightwode, draper, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Sturgeon, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 100 marks for the payment into Court by the said John Coggeshale of a similar sum to the use of John, son of William Kyrtone, late draper, and apprentice to William Clyfford, fishmonger, when the said orphan shall have come of age.

20 Feb., 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1450–1], account rendered by John Crosse in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Forster, Alderman, and John Nedeham, Common Serjeant-at-law, auditors appointed by Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, for the time when he was receiver of the issues and profits of lands and tenements belonging to John, son of John Tyce, late "Goldebeter." The auditors find that the said John Crosse is indebted to the said orphan in the sum of £108. Fo. 253 b.

Afterwards, viz., on the 30th March, 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], the said orphan came before the Mayor and Aldermen and acknowledged satisfaction for the above sum, and also for certain pieces of plate, &c., received from John Chichele, late Chamberlain, and bequeathed to him by his father.

14 July, 29 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], four persons nominated by the Commonalty of the Ward of "Douegate" to Nicholas Wifold, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, for them to elect one to be Alderman of the said Ward, viz., William Dere, Geoffrey Boleyn, John Yong, and John Felde. Thereupon the said William Dere was elected, and on the 16th July was sworn and admitted.[1]

Monday, 4 Sept., 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], in the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, it was decreed by Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, John Hatherle, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Coumbes, William Fo. 254. *Admissio Joh'is Bandy in officium servientis Cam'e.*

[1] According to the Journal (5, fo. 60), both nomination and election took place on the 16th July. The letters "d" and "b" placed over the Mayor and the several Aldermen in the record show that ten members of the Court voted for Dere and four for Boleyn.

Gregory, John Norman, John Derby, Geoffrey Felding, William Cantelowe, William Abraham, William Dere, and Richard Alley, Aldermen, that John Bandy should be one of the permanent Serjeants of the Chamber, receiving from the Chamber the annual livery and fee accustomed.

Fo. 254 b. Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], in the presence of Nicholas Wifold, the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, Henry Frowik, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, John Norman, William Coumbes, John Derby, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Scot, William Abraham, William Cantlowe, William Marowe, William Hulyn, Christopher Warter, William Dere, and Richard Alley, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, Matthew Philip was elected one of the Sheriffs by the Mayor, and Christopher Warter was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Sturgeon was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and Thomas Davy, tailor, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; William Cantlowe, William Marow, Aldermen, William Gregory, junior, William Taillour, John Feld, and Thomas Gay, senior, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Electio Will'i Gregory Al' in Maiorem. Wednesday the Feast of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], in the presence of Nicholas Wyfold, the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broune, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chaltone, William Gregory, William Coumbes, John Norman, John Derby, Stephen Forster, Geoffrey Feldyng, Thomas Canynges, William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, William Marowe, Matthew Phelip, Thomas Scot, William Dere, Christopher Warter, and Richard Alley, Aldermen, and an

immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, William Gregory,[1] Alderman, was elected Mayor by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

14 Nov., 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], came William Redeknape, mercer, John Maldone, grocer, John Shelley, grocer, Thomas Brice, mercer, and William Hatter, mercer, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Gregory, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Sturgeon, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 40 marks, for the payment of a similar sum by the above William Redeknape to Philip, son of Philip Spyre, late mercer, when he comes of age, the said William having been appointed guardian to the said orphan. Fo. 255.

8 Jan., 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451-2], Robert Arnewey, mercer, discharged by William Gregory, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon'acio Rob'ti Arnewey.*

9 Feb., 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451-2], William Botersfeld, "couper," similarly discharged for like cause. Fo. 255 b.

29 Nov., 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], a petition to William Gregory, the Mayor, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broune, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Thomas Chalton, Nicholas Wyfold, William Coumbes, John Norman, John Derby, Stephen Forster, Geoffrey Feldyng, William Cantlowe, William Dere, and Richard Alley, Aldermen, Matthew Philip and Christopher Warter, the Sheriffs, and a notable Commonalty (*insigni co'itate*) of the City in Common Council assembled, as follows:— *Ordinac' Bakwelhall.*

[1] The author of at least part of the Chronicle known as 'Gregory's Chronicle,' and frequently referred to in this and previous Calendars. That he was not the author of the whole is evinced by the fact that the Chronicle is continued down to 1469, and Gregory died either in 1466 or 1467.

"To the Right honurable and worshipful souveraignes the Maire and Aldremen of this Citee of London

"Please it unto yo^{r} Worthinesses & wise discrec'ons to have knowledge and considerac'on of the grete hurtz and inconvenientz growyng and daily comyng unto þe co'ialte of this cite & to the franchise of the same by many diverse meanes and sp'ally by these forein Broco^{r}s makyng bargayns betwene forein and forein in this Cite ofte tymes and many aswele by colo^{r} of fraunchised puple of this Cite & oþ'wise as by bringing in of wollenclothes ledder and oþer chaffar' for to be sold which arn' brought & delivred into many secrete places of this Cite and not to the co'e & open marked places þ'fore specially ordeyned & assigned And also by bringing hider of Blokkes and peces of tynne sp'ally of Devenshire comyng daily to this Cite on hors bak which ben brought and & [*sic*] delivred into many prive places of this Cite and nat to the co'e weyhous lyke as tynne of Cornewayle is wonte thidder to be brought. Which wollen cloth leder Devenyshe tynne and moche othre chaffar' so delyvered into secrete places by foreyns þe oweners þ'of oþ'while by the saide forein Broco^{r}s and by oþer puple aswell fraunchised as foreins bene bargayned bought and sold daily betwene forein & forein in grete derogac'on & prejudice of the franchise of this Cite & grete hurt & hinderinge of the trewe fraunchised puple of the same Cite. The p'missis tendrely considered ye like of yo^{r} grete wysdoms to graunte provide and ordeign þat from hens forth none suche woollenclothe ledder tynne nor oþer chaffar' of eny forein persone brought to þis Cite for to be sold be ledd nor housed in no place but oonly in such open forsaid places þat ben ordeyned for sale of such chaffar' þat is to say as wollen clothe to be ledde brought and deliv'ed unto þe co'e market place of "Blakwellhall" lether to þe co'e selde[1] and Devenyssh tynne aswele as Cornyssh tynne & all oþer tynne to þe co'e weihous places therfore sp'ally ordeyned and assigned & suche oþer chafar' þat shall be solde to be brought & deliv'ed in suche open places as be ordeyned

[1] *Vide supra*, p. 250.

þerfore Upon peyne to forfaite alle suche cloth ledder tynne & oþer chaffar' so brought & deliv'ed in any oþer places thanne aforesaid And þat aswell þe saide alien brocoʳs as oþer and also alle fraunchised peple makyng any suche bargayns betwene forein & forein or rescevyng into here houses or places any suche chaffar' brought to be sold or coloʳyng or favoʳyng any suche bargaynes & þerof duely convicte make & paie grete fyne to þe Chambre of Guyldhall atte every tyme þei may be found defectif þerin or brekyng any parte of þe saide ordenaunce aftir þat it shal seme worthy by yoʳ wise discrec'ons without any pardon þerof to be graunted or had and þis in wey of Right and for þe wele of all þe Co'altie of þis Cite."[1]

9 Dec., 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], came Robert Okle, "bruer," John Wottone, draper, Thomas Glover, "ferrour," Nicholas Toller, "skynner," Thomas Perkyns, "hostiller," William Simond, "hostiller," William Dodde, "haberdassher," and Thomas Riseby, "brasyere," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Gregory, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Sturgeon, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £36 13*s.* 4*d.* for the payment of a like sum by the said Robert Okle to William, son of William Bounde, late brewer, and of Alice his wife, on his coming of age, the said Robert having been appointed guardian of the said orphan. Fo. 256. *Custod'.*

22 March, 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1451-2], petition by Thomas Downam, one of the Mayor's Serjeants-at-mace, to the Mayor and Aldermen, to be appointed "one of the Sergeauntz attendyng upone the maire" in place of Rawlyn Vernon, late serjeant, who is "past to God," such appointment having been promised to him on the next avoidance.

His petition granted.

29 March, 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], came William Miller, "dier," before William Gregory, the Mayor, and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of Fo. 256 b.

[1] Whether the petition was approved or not is not recorded.

"Dyers," *temp.* John Olney, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 11th Aug., 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1447], he had long used, and was still using, the mistery of Drapers. He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom of the City in the said Mistery of Drapers. His prayer granted at the instance of good men of the said Mistery.

Fo. 257. 19 July, 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], came Richard Nedeham, mercer, into the Court of the lord the King, before William Gregory, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond for the payment of the sum of 20 marks to John, son of William Stokdale, on his coming of age.

Pinners. 19 July, 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], came William Michell, Thomas Byset, and William Clerk, Wardens of the Mistery of Pynners, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Gregory, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented a petition as follows:—

"Unto the full honourables lord the Maire and Aldremen of the Citee of London

"Besechen mekely William Michell Thomas Biset and William Clerk Wardeins of the crafte of Pynners that where it hath alwayes been accustumed and used for to take and have of every fyne brought in to the Chambre of the Yeldhall by the presentment of the Wardeins of the same craft that one half for their costes and laboure doone there in to nowe late that your said besechers presented one John Bultell pynner of a defaute that him ought to have paied perfore a fyne of xl*s.* and paied wages to a sergeant for to fett the same John Bultell into the chamber to answer and paie the same fyne and other costes aboute the same besynesse diden, and the Chaumberleyn toke of the same John Bultell a fyne of v*j s.* viij*d.* and lete him passe and not wold reward the said Wardeins for all her said labour and costes, Wherfor please it unto your wise discrecions to considre the premisses, and howe yef the Wardeins of the same crafte be thus put to cost for the approwyng and getyng in of Fines to the availe of the Chamber alonely and have none availe nor reward therfor as they have hadd before this tyme it is to drede they from this tyme forward wol suffre incon-

venience to rise and growe to the hurte of the people and of the Chambre than at their grete cost and laboure so to presente, And therupon to graunte and ordeign that the Wardeins of the said crafte from this foreward may have that one half of all such fynes as by their presentement shull be reised and take for their laboure as Wardeins of other craftes of this Citee haven and they shall pray to God for you."

Their petition granted.

8 July, 30 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], a petition by the Commonalty to the Mayor and Aldermen in Common Council assembled, there being present William Gregory, the Mayor, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broune, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Nicholas Wyfold, Thomas Chaltone, John Norman, Geoffrey Feldyng, Robert Horne, John Derby, William Cantelowe, Stephen Forster, William Abraham, William Marowe, William Hulyn, William Dere, Matthew Philip, and Richard Alley, Aldermen, in the following terms :— Fo. 257 b.

"Unto the right Worshipful and discrete soveraines Maire and Aldremen of this noble Citee of London

"Complaynen and ful tendrely shewen unto yo^r^ sadde Wisdoms the Co'ens of this honorable Citee that where of auncien tyme for the grete wele and notable worship of this Cite it was ordeyned and used of commendable Custume that there shuld be none other Officers Sergeauntes aboute the Sherrefs of this Cite for the tyme beyng but men of good name and fame and freemen of the saide Cite and likly of their personnes such as myght and coude do their Maistres good service and grete worship at tyme of nede and had wherwith to lyve upon yf they had not ben in office And no moo of them in noumbre with one Sherref but viij personnes atte moste[1] And no moo Clerkes in aither of the Counters then the Secundarye, the Clerk of the papir and other two Clerkes to theym and with theym syttyng in the Courte the Undreshirrefz Clerkes In whiche daies the saide sergeauntz and Clerkes diden their maistres good service grete worship

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 32.

profite & availle and lyved them self upon their offices & services wele honestly and manerely withoute any extorc'on doyng to the co'en people or fraude or collusion doyng to any partye whiche turned this Cite in tho daies to right grete Worship and notable fame in al this Reaume And in thise daies and fewe daies passed it is and hath ben used that contrarie the saide good and auncienne ordenaunce and commendable Custume the Sherrefz of London for the tyme beyng have receyved into their services for sergeauntes by diverse meanes made unto theym in sundry wises suche personnes as have not hadde any goodes wherwith to susteyne theymself oute of service And no thing likly of their persones nor hable to do theire maistre covenable service for his honeste And of them many in noumbre as experience at this daye and in fewe daies passed hath shewed ful pleynly And moreover of Clerkes in the Comptours contrary to the saide ordenaunce in aither Comptour v or vj personnes moo then have ben used of old tyme Whiche persones of sergeantes and clerkes beyng so many in nombre coude ner con not alle gete their lyvyng but if they do extorc'on & oppression to the co'en people. And otherwhile for encroching everiche of theym of his singuler availe do fraude and collusion to theire cleauntes. Whiche manere doyng in late daies hath turned this Citee to grete defame disclaundre & dishoneste. Whiche is like to contynue so forth as god defende of lesse then convenable remedye therfore the sonner be provided by yo^{r} sadde discrec'ons Thise premisses tendrely considered It please yo^{r} good graces bi yo^{r} noble wisdams & by assent of the right discrete Co'ens assembled in this present co'en counseille and by auctorite of the same for to ordeyne enacte & establissh perpetuely to endure that the Shirrefs of this honorable Citee þat herafter for the tyme shull be from this tyme forthward receyve no persones into their services for sergeauntes but men of good name & fame and likly of their persones & men beyng enfraunchised of this Citee and no mo in noumbre then aftre thold ordenaunce aforesaide therof made or atte moost iiij moo in alle So that no Sherref have moo of them in noumbre than oonly xij

persones atte moost if he so many have. Ner that ther be no moo Clerkes in aither Countre than þe Secundarye the Clerk of the paper and other two Clerkes unto theym beside the Undersherrefz Clerk sittyng with theym in playne Court in the Yeldehall. And that what Shirref of this Cite þat herafter do the contrarye of this ordenaunce renne in peyne of Cli sterling to be levyed of his goodes where so evere they mowe be found as often as he so doo to the Chambrelayn of London for the tyme beyng to the use of the co'ialte of London And this to be graunted for the grete wele & worship of this honorable Citee therby to be recovered ageyn as the same hath ben in daies passed."

The same enacted accordingly.

[Fo. 258 *blank.*]

Fo. 258 b.

5 Dec., 30 [*sic*] Henry VI. [A.D. 1451], Roger Champney, "talowchaundler," discharged by William Gregory, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries as he was afflicted with colic (*colica passione*) and old age.

Exon'acio Rog'i Champney ab assis' etc.

[Fo. 259 *blank.*]

Fo. 259 b.

27 Feb., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452-3], Richard Hille, "brewer," discharged by William Gregory, the Mayor [*sic*], and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Ric'i Hille ab assisis.

[Fo. 260 *blank.*]

Fo. 260 b.

11 Oct., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], William Horne, draper, similarly discharged by William Gregory, the Mayor [*sic*], &c., for like cause.

Exon' Will'i Horne civis et pannar' London.

The same day John Russell, "Founder," similarly discharged for like cause.

Exon'acio Joh'is Russell ab assis'.

[Fo. 261 *blank.*]

Fo. 261 b.

20 Oct., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], William Wyther, "letherseller," similarly discharged by William Gregory, the Mayor [*sic*], &c., on account of deafness and other infirmities.

21 Oct., the same year, came Richard Aubry, "wever," before William Gregory, the Mayor [*sic*], and the Aldermen in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and showed that whereas he had

been admitted into the freedom of the City in the Art of "Wever," *temp.* Henry Frowyk, Mayor, and John Chichele, Chamberlain, viz., on the 15th March, anno 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], he intended in future to use the mistery or art of "Haberdasshers," and not the art of "Wevers." He prayed, therefore, to be admitted into the freedom in the Art or Mistery of "Haberdasshers." His prayer granted at the instance of the masters and good men of the Art or Mistery of "Haberdasshers," viz., John Fulbourne, Richard Hille, Richard Ewet, Robert Chirche, John Colred, Geoffrey Fowler, and others [not named].

[Fos. 262-262 b *blank.*]

Fo. 263. The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], in the presence of William Gregory, the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, Stephen Broun, Simon Eyre, John Hatherle, John Olney, John Norman, Robert Horn, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Derby, Thomas Scot, William Abraham, William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Christopher Warter, and Geoffrey Boleyn, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, Richard Lee was elected one of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex [*sic*] by the Mayor, and Richard Alley was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Sturgeon, mercer, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and Thomas Davy, tailor, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; and Thomas Scot, William Marowe, Aldermen, William Taillour, William Gregory, junior, John Maldon, and William Latoner, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Friday the Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], in the presence of William Gregory,

the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, Henry Frowik, the Prior of Christchurch, Stephen Broun, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Nicholas Wyfold, John Norman, Robert Horn, Stephen Forster, John Derby, Geoffrey Felding, Thomas Canynges, Thomas Scot, William Cantelowe, William Abraham, William Hulyn, William Marowe, Matthew Philip, Christopher Warter, William Dere, Richard Alley, Geoffrey Boleyn, and Richard Lee, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Geoffrey Feldyng, Alderman, was by favour of the Holy Spirit elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

20 Sept., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], Paul Jonson, cordwainer, discharged by Geoffrey Feldynge, the Mayor [*sic*], and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., on account of deafness and other infirmities. Fo. 263 b.

7 Dec., the same year, Robert Pitte, "pynner," similarly discharged for like cause.

17 Nov., the same year, came Katherine, widow of William Coumbys, late fishmonger, John Waldene, grocer, John Tate, mercer, William Alhede, draper, and Robert Fallans into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and entered into bond with John Sturgeon, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £420.

The above to be void on condition that the said Katherine deliver into the Chamber the sum of £400 as soon as George, son of the above William Coumbys, is twenty-four years of age, together with divers chattels, comprising a silver cup and covercle called "Le Vatte," two "bikers" of silver standing on lions, two silver-gilt cups fashioned like bells, and twelve silver spoons with "knoppes" of lions bequeathed by the said William Coumbys to his son.

Afterwards, viz., on Friday, the 16th May, 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], came the above orphan, being twenty-four years of

age, into the Court of the lord the King, before Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for the aforesaid money and goods. The said recognitors and also Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, are therefore quit.

Fo. 264. Saturday, 27 Jan., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452–3], came Richard Lovell into the Court of the lord the King, before Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, and Thomas Billyng, the Recorder, and was presented by Thomas Burgoyn and Roger Birkes, Undersheriffs, as an Attorney of the Sheriffs' Court. Thereupon he was admitted and sworn.

Fo. 264 b. "Secrete Instruccion yoven by the Maire Aldermen and Comunes of the Citee of London in their Co'e counseille holden in the Guyldhall of the same Citee the secund day of Octobre the xxxj$^{t'}$ yere of the Reign of Kyng Henry the vj^{te} [A.D. 1452] unto their Right Trusty and welbeloved Maister John Aleyn docto^{r} of lawe civile and Rogier Tonge co'e clerk and Secretarie of the".....[*ends abruptly*].[1]

[Fo. 265 *excised;* Fo. 266 *blank.*]

Fos. 266 b-267 b. *Ordinacio de Brocoures.* Friday, 15 Dec., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452], ordinances made by Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty in Common Council assembled, for the regulation of Brokers,[2] to the following effect:—

[1] The proceedings of the Common Council on the 2nd Oct., 1452, as recorded in the Journal of that date, relate to the City's defence of Robert Wright in a case of appeal against the curates of the City in the Court of Rome, and the appointment of solicitors in a matter touching offerings. On the 10th October the Journal further records that certain instructions for Master John Aleyn and Roger Tonge, who were to be sent to the Court of Rome as counsel (*oratores*) for the City, were read and ordered to be sealed with the City's Common Seal. These delegates (of whom Roger Tonge, otherwise known as Roger Spicer, was Common Clerk or Town Clerk of the City) appear to have been seized on their way to Rome by the Bishop of Cologne, and to have been released only after the intervention of the Pope himself.—Journal 5, fos. 99 b, 112 b, 122 b. The question of offerings was a frequent cause of dispute between the citizens and the curates. Cf. *infra*, fos. 273-273 b.

[2] The regulations had previously been submitted to a committee of five Aldermen and fourteen Commoners for consideration. Journal 5, fo. 97 b.

(1) The Mayor and Aldermen for the time being shall yearly appoint two Commoners to have control over all brokers, who shall be Englishmen born and not exceed twenty in number.

(2) Any broker convicted of false "chevesaunce" or untrue bargain[1] to forswear the City after being "ledde thorough the Citee his heed discovered and w^t^outen hosen and ungirt upon an hors w^t^oute sadille." A Surveyor who meddles in any such bargain to be fined £100 for each offence.

(3) No broker to buy or sell fraudulently to his own profit or make any bargain between "forein & forein or forein & estraunger,"[2] under penalty of £100.

(4) Every broker shall bring the buyer and seller together before making a bargain,[3] no seller to buy back goods he had sold.

(5) No broker shall obtain the selling of goods by promising merchants a higher price than they would otherwise get.[4]

(6) No broker to advise merchants to keep their goods in the hope of obtaining an enhanced price.[5]

(7) Brokers to make their bargains without respect to any particular craft.

(8) Sworn brokers not to advise the employment of brokers who are not sworn.

(9) No broker to "be in livere with any person," nor be host to any stranger, upon pain of losing his office.

(10) Brokers to keep books of their bargains, which they are to be ready to show to the Surveyors if required.

[1] Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' pp. 157, 365.

[2] Among the regulations for brokers ordained *temp.* Edward II. was one to the effect that no broker should bring a stranger to another stranger for the purpose of buying and selling. 'Cal. Letter-Book D,' p. 219. The distinction here drawn between a foreigner and a stranger is noteworthy. In a petition, however, presented to the Common Council in 1433 (*supra*, p. 161), we find "foreins" embracing both "strangiers" and "denizeins," a denizen, strictly speaking, denoting an alien or stranger who had obtained letters of denization, but, in this case, probably, meaning no more than one residing within the City (O.F. *deinzein*). See *Notes and Queries*, 6 and 20 Aug., and 3 Sept., 1910.

[3] Cf. 'Letter-Book I,' p. 63.

[4] *Idem*, p. 64.

[5] *Id. ibid.*

(11) Two brokers to be appointed for exchange of money, the same to be paid at the following rates, viz., of 100 ducats 6 pence; of 100 florins of "Jeane"[1] 6 pence; of 100 florins of Florence 6 pence; of 100 crowns (*scudi*) of Flanders 4 pence.

(12) No broker to lead any merchant stranger out of the City for the purpose of buying and selling.[2]

(13) No broker to go to Bakwellhalle for the purpose of advising a stranger in buying cloth.

(14) No freeman to set any man to work as a broker unless admitted and sworn as a broker.

(15) A bargain between a freeman and a stranger or alien shall not be recorded by one pretending to have been present at such bargain.

(16) Brokers to be paid according to the ordinance made *temp.* Robert Chichele, Mayor,[3] and of all other merchandise not comprised therein shall take for every 20 shillings worth 2 pence from every denizen and 3 pence from every forein or stranger.

(17) For every 20*s.* taken by brokers 2*s.* is to be given to the Surveyors, who shall deliver 12 pence to the Chamberlain for the use of the Commonalty.

(18) All fines levied shall be to the use of the Chamber.

Fo. 267 b. *Exon'acio "Will'i" May ab assisis etc.*

7 March, 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452–3], "Richard" May, "corser,"[4] discharged by Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 268.

8 March, the same year, came Robert Strother, William Denton, Richard Claver, Philip Howell, and William Pykeryng, mercers, and William Brampton, writer of the court-letter, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with John Sturgeon, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 250 marks for the payment into Court of that sum by the said Robert Strother and William Denton, or one of them,

[1] Genoa.
[2] Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' p. 219.
[3] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 264.
[4] Horse-dealer.

to the use of William, son of William Thornhill, late mercer, when he is twenty-eight years of age.

17 March, the same year, Warren Fowler, "brewer," discharged by Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Petition to the Common Council held on Monday the 5th March, 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452–3], by John Payn, "glover," setting forth that he had taken as apprentices James and Piers, sons of the late Godfrey Helmond and Katherine his wife, supposing them to have been born in England, whereas they had been born in "Maghlin,"[1] in Flanders, and praying that the said apprentices, after serving their respective terms, according to the custom of the City, may be admitted into the freedom of the City, notwithstanding their place of birth. [English.]

19 Jan., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452–3], ordinance by Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, and the Aldermen that freemen using the mistery of "Whitetawers" in the borough of Southwerk and in the wick (*vico*) of Bermondsey (not being in lot with other citizens) shall pay yearly 2*s.* into the Chamber of the Guildhall for their lot, and not pay the same to the Sheriffs, as used to be done. Fo. 268 b.

20 July, 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453], came Nicholas Jepe, fishmonger, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and asked permission to prosecute at common law Hugh Wyche, mercer, and others, executors of William Wyche, late fishmonger. Permission granted to prosecute in any of the King's courts.

Wednesday, 3 Oct., 32 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453], a grant made by Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, Henry Frowyk, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Nicholas Wyfold, William Gregory, John Norman, Stephen Forster, Robert Horn, John Derby, Thomas Scot, William Cantelowe, William Abraham, William Marowe, Matthew "Phelip," William Dere, and Richard Lee, Aldermen, to Thomas Dounham, a Serjeant-at-mace to the Mayor, of an annual sum of 40*s.* in recognition of his services, like Ralph Vernon, a late Serjeant-at-mace.

[1] Mechlin.

Fo. 269. *Ordinac'o de Berebruers.*

8 Oct., 32 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453], ordinance by Geoffrey Feldyng, the Mayor, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broune, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, William Gregory, Nicholas Wyfold, John Norman, Robert Horne, Stephen Forster, John Derby, Thomas Canynges, Thomas Scot, William Cantelowe, William Marowe, William Hulyn, Matthew "Phelip," Christopher Warter, Geoffrey Boleyn, and Richard Lee, Aldermen, and the Commonalty in Common Council assembled, that "Berebruers" make their vessels according to the assize, and have them stamped with their own iron marks, which marks are to be recorded in the Chamber, under penalty prescribed; and, further, that they sell their beer at prices prescribed and by sealed measures "full of clier bere wythoute vyall."

[Fo. 269 b *blank.*]

Fo. 270.

12 Oct., 32 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453], came John Dogowe, John Kendal, and Robert Chamberleyn, "peautrers," and John Burveyn, "brewer," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and entered into bond with John Sturgeon, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £20 for the payment of that sum into Court by the said John Dogowe to the use of Katherine, daughter of Thomas Whyte, late "bruer," when she shall come of age, the said John having been appointed her guardian.

Fo. 270 b. *Bartholemewe faire.*

Indenture made between Geoffrey Feldynge, the Mayor, and Commonalty on the one part, and Reginald Colyer, Prior of St. Bartholomew's in Westsmythfeld, and Convent of the same on the other part, whereby it was agreed (*inter alia*) that on occasions when Bartholomew Fair is held, pickage[1] and stallage[2] levied in Westsmythfeld outside the precinct of the Priory and certain other places prescribed by metes and bounds, should thenceforth belong to the Mayor and Commonalty without objection being raised by the Prior, and that the same tolls taken within the close and precinct of the said Priory should be the property of the Prior and Convent for the time being, without challenge by the civic authorities. It was further

[1] Toll paid for breaking ground. | [2] Toll paid for erecting booths.

agreed that the Mayor and Commonalty and their successors should exercise the scrutiny of weights and measures and of goods exposed for sale at the Fair and adjacent places aforesaid outside the precinct of the Priory as well as within the said precinct, the Prior for the time being and his successors being at liberty to join the Mayor in his yearly visit for the purpose within the said precinct; also that all forfeitures and tolls, excepting pickage and stallage, both within and without the precinct of the Priory, should in future be levied and collected by officers appointed both by the Mayor and Aldermen and by the Prior, the said officers making a return of the value of such forfeitures, &c., to the men of law presiding over the Fair Courts; that one half of the tolls should go to the Sheriffs of the City, one half of forfeitures to the Mayor and Commonalty, and the other half both of tolls and forfeitures to the Prior and Convent. It was further agreed that the Prior for the time being should hold his Court of Pie-powder (*pedis pulver'*) on the prescribed days by his Steward or other person learned in law, in conjunction with the Common Serjeant-at-law of the City, one of the Under Sheriffs, or some other person learned in law[1] appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen, the said Steward and his associate having suitable food and drink with the Prior during the time of the Fair. It was likewise agreed that no arrest, attachment, or execution by authority of the said Court of Pie-powder should be made except by Serjeants-at-mace of the Mayor or Sheriffs or by others specially appointed, and that all fines and amercements issuing from the said Court should be for the use of the Prior for the time being. Dated the eve of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], 32 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453].

"This indenture made betwene Geffrey Feldyng Mair of the Citee of London and the Cominaltie of the same Citee on that one partie and John Fray Richard Riche John Middeltone Thomas Walsyngham John Burtone and 'Rogier' Byrkes Fo. 271.

[1] It had been decided at a Common Council held on the 15th March, 1452-3, that these should sit with the Steward at the Court. Journal 5, fo. 106 b. See also Journal 5, fos. 107, 126 b.

Executors of the testament of Sir William Estfeld knyght late Alderman of the same Citee on that other partye Witnesseth that where the said Maire and Cominalte arne possessed and seased of a Conduyt hede wyth diverse Springes of water gedered and conveyed in to the same in the paryshe of Padyngton[1] in the shire of Midd' and from the whiche conduyt hede the water therof is conveied by pipes of lede toward London unto a place called Tyburne in the same Shire and no ferther as yette and there it hath leyn the space of vj yeere and more and yette doth the water of the which conduyt the forsaid John Fray Richard Riche John Middeltone Thomas Walsyngham John Burtone and Roger Byrkes to the worship of godde and wele of the Cominaltie of the said Citee of theire owne free will be in full purpose by the grace of god wyth the goodes of the said Sir William Estfeld wyth the good help and supportac'on of the said Maire and Cominaltie and here Successours to conveye and brynge by pypes of leede in to a pipe of leede which is bygoune and leyde beside the grete † conduyt hede at Maryburne in the same Shire and so streccheth from thens unto the sesperalle[2] late made and sett ayenst the chapell of Seint Mary of Rouncevale beside Charynge Crosse and no ferther and from thens the said executours with the goodes of the said Sir William Estfeld wolle conveye the said water by pipes of lede into the forsaid Citee and there make Resceit or Resceites Sespirall or sespiralles vente or ventes for the said water and dispose the said water in certain place or places wythynne the same Citee aftre their discrecioun unto the co'ne wele and profite of the Cominalte of the said Citee if the said Executours mowen have the good wille helpe and supportacioun of the said Maire and Cominalte and their Successours in these premisses Wherfore the said Maire and Cominaltie consideryng the good wille and purpose of the forsaid executours gyffe and graunten unto the said John Fray Richard Riche John Middeltone Thomas Walsyngham John

[1] Cf. *supra*, p. 233.

[2] Or "separall," a several or divided enclosure.

Burtone and 'Rogier' Birkes alle the said water and conduit and every parte therof for to be by theim conveyed made disposed and sette in manere and fourme as above is declared and also the forsaid Maire and Cominaltie for hem and her Successours graunten to the said John Fray Richard Riche John Middeltone Thomas Walsyngham John Burtone and 'Rogier' Birkes Executours aforesaid by this indenture that they nor here Successours shall not chaunge turne nor conveye the said water and Conduite nor no parcell therof in or to other place but onely suffre the said water and conduite to abide and continue in suche place or places as by the said Executours or eny of hem shall be made conveyed sette and disposed in the fourme aforesaid And to all these covenauntes grauntes and condic'ons above rehersed and everich of them on the partie of the said Maire and Cominalte and of their Successours well and trewely to be holden fulfilled and kept the same Maire and Cominalte bynde hem and here Successours unto the said John Fray Richard Riche John Middeltone Thomas Walsyngham John Burtone and Roger Birkes in M[l] li sterling In witnesse of which thinges to the one partie of this Indenture remaynyng towards the said John Fray Richard Riche John Middeltone Thomas Walsyngham John Burtone and Roger Birkes the said Maire and Cominaltie of one assent and will have sette their comune seall[1] And to the other partie of the said indenture towardes the said Maire and Co'ialte remaynyng the said John Fray Richard Riche John Middeltone Thomas Walsyngham John Burtone and Roger Birkes have sette their seales Yovene at London in the vigile of the Apposteles Simon and Jude [28 Oct.] In the yeer of the reign of Kyng Henry the Sixte after the conquest xxxij[t]"[2] [A.D. 1453].

[1] Cf. Journal 5, fo. 126b.

[2] The substance of this indenture is given by Stow in his 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford, ii. 41), probably from this record in the Letter-Book, with which we know Stow to have been familiar. By a codicil to his will proved and enrolled in the Court of Husting, London, in Feb., 1447, Estfield desired that the water conduit in Aldermanbury should also be finished at his expense. (See 'Cal. of Wills,' ii. 510. Cf. Stow's 'Survey,' i. 109.)

Fos. 271 b-272*.

De gub'naco'e molendinar' et venden' farrinam etc.

The custom of the City and various ordinances and proceedings touching Pesage paid by Bakers placed on record to the following effect:—

From time immemorial the custom of Pesage had always existed in the City whereby every freeman baker was bound to deliver his corn by weight to the miller to be ground, and also to see that the flour produced therefrom corresponded in weight, paying to the Mayor or Warden of the City for the time being the sum of one halfpenny for every quarter of corn and a farthing for every half quarter, and to the miller for grinding three pence a quarter, &c.[1]

King Edward I. directed a writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs, dated 28 Nov., in the tenth year of his reign [A.D. 1281], commanding that corn sent to millers and flour produced therefrom should correspond in weight.[2] Thereupon it was decreed by the Mayor and the Sheriffs with the assent of the Commonalty that weights and balances for weighing corn and flour should be provided thenceforth by the Mayor, and houses hired for weighing therein, as well as men appointed for making "pesage," and that every freeman baker should pay the Mayor a halfpenny for weighing a quarter of corn and a farthing a half quarter to defray expenses.[3]

The above confirmed by letters patent dated 20 March, 1 Edward III. [A.D. 1326-7], and ordinances to similar effect were passed by the Common Council held on Tuesday, the 16th Jan., 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452-3],[4] and 8 Oct., 32 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453].[5] Afterwards, viz., on the 4th Sept., 32 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453],[6] proceedings were taken by Geoffrey Feldyng, the

[1] The punishment to be inflicted on the fraudulent miller, which follows, will be found printed in 'Liber Albus,' i. 355.

[2] 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' p. 213; 'Cal. B,' p. 217; 'Liber Cust.,' i. 239.

[3] It appears that these dues were at some time or other compounded for by the payment of an annual sum of 50 marks to the Mayor for the time being. In 1450, during Chalton's Mayoralty, the bakers firmly refused to pay it, and thereupon the Common Council decreed that no Mayor should make terms with the bakers until satisfaction had been made for pesage due. Journal 5, fo. 48 b.

[4] Cf. Journal 5, fo. 100 b.

[5] *Id.*, fo. 124 b.

[6] There seems to be some mistake here.

Mayor, in the Court of the lord the King held at the Guildhall, before Richard Lee, one of the Sheriffs, against John "Barkeby," baker, for refusing to pay the dues for weighing, contrary to the ordinance. A jury found for the plaintiff for sum claimed with damages.

In similar manner the said Mayor took proceedings on the same day against John "Mabewe," Thomas Fuller, John Wyndesore, William Hebold, Arnold Horn, Richard Blythe, John Hayne, William Bird, Edmund Stonard, and Thomas Alford, bakers. In the course of the proceedings the above John Barkby produced in Court the King's writ to the Sheriffs, dated 16 Oct. [A.D. 1453], bidding them to bring up into the Chancery the said John Barkby, and also Richard Blythe, John Heyne, William Bird, Edmund Stonard, and Thomas Alford, bakers, together with particulars of their arrest and detention. Thereupon the said Richard Lee, Sheriff, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, Thomas Ursewik the Common Serjeant, and Thomas Burgoyne and Roger Birkes, Under Sheriffs, appeared in Chancery, when the matter was referred for trial before the King's Justices and the Custos Rotulorum on the eve of All Saints [1 Nov.] next.

Accordingly, on that day there appeared John Norman, the Mayor,[1] Stephen Broun, Simon Eyre, John Hathirle, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, Robert Horn, Stephen Forster, John Derby, William Abraham, William "Marwe," William Hulyn, Christopher Warter, Richard "Alle," Richard Lee, Matthew Philip, Aldermen, and John Walden and Thomas Cook, the Sheriffs, together with counsel on behalf of both parties, before John Fortescu, Knt., Chief Justice of the

[1] His election took place in October, 1453, as recorded *infra*, p. 362, and on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.] he "was rowed by water to Westmynster w^t^ the Aldermen; and alle the chief of the Comoners of the Cite went also thedir by barges; which of tymes owte of mynd was used before season by the Mairs to ride allwey by land to take their charge Wherfore the watermen of Themmys made a song of this John Norman wherof the begynnyng was 'Rowe thy bote Norman,' which newe custume was welle allowed." MS. Cotton. Vitellius A. xvi. (Kingsford's 'Chron. of London,' p. 164).

King's Bench, John Prisot, Chief Justice of Common Pleas, John Markham, William Yelverton, and Robert Danvers, Justices, and Master John Kyrkeby, the Custos Rotulorum, in the Exchequer Chamber, and both parties having been heard, judgment was given in favour of the Mayor, &c.,[1] and on the 12th Dec. following the said bakers, as also Richard Botiller, John Bythewater, Symon Staresmore, Robert Bradowe, John Short, William Lewes, Richard White, John Totewell, David Breknok, Henry Norbury, William Copeland, William Chestre, Henry Pikeman, Robert Bird, Thomas Fuller, John Brok, Richard Clarence, Robert George, and Johanna Page, widow, bakers, came into the Court of the Chamber before the Mayor and Aldermen and made submission,[2] &c. [*ends abruptly*].

[Fo. 272* b *blank.*]

Fos. 273-273 b. Whereas Roger Niger, formerly Bishop of London, had ordained that every parishioner of the City should make an offering on specified days in his parish church, according to the value of his house, for the maintenance of the clergy,[3] and this ordinance had long been observed both by Rectors and Curates, and also by the citizens, until certain curates, dissatisfied with the liberal provision made for them, as is their custom (*quatenus in eis est*), obtained further concessions from Thomas Arundel, late Archbishop of Canterbury, confirmed by Pope Innocent [VII.], whereby citizens were greatly prejudiced, an attempt was made by John Norman, the Mayor, the Aldermen, and citizens, to effect a compromise, and for a time peace was restored. Now, however, certain curates having declared that they had received an apostolic letter

[1] Cf. Journal 5, fo. 128 b.

[2] For further proceedings see Journal 5, fos. 137, 138 b.

[3] He ordained that a halfpenny in the pound and a farthing for every ten shillings should be paid by the parishioners on every Sunday and certain festivals. This "constitution" was afterwards confirmed by Archbishop Arundel in 1397, and by Pope Nicholas V. in 1453. Newcourt, 'Repert.,' i. 13; Arnold's 'Customs of London,' pp. 57-67, 178. Arnold sets out the Bull of Pope Nicholas, which is described as having been *purchased* by the curates of the City in favour of their oblations on the 6th August, 1453.

from the Court of Rome[1] prejudicial to the Mayor, Aldermen, and parishioners of the City, the said Mayor and Aldermen, with the assent of the citizens in Common Council assembled on the 12th March, anno 32 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453-4], agreed to visit the Bishop of London[2] and consult him on the matter. They accordingly saw him on the morrow at St. Paul's, when Thomas Billyng, the Recorder, on behalf of the Mayor and Aldermen, laid the whole matter before him, and asked to be furnished with a copy of the alleged apostolic letter. The Bishop readily gave his approval, but no such copy had been obtainable in spite of every effort. At length the Bishop, hoping to deceive the Mayor, sent a servant asking him to attend in the afternoon at St. Paul's to talk over the matter. The Mayor accordingly, with joyful heart, went to the church, and in a little chapel near the Consistory Court to the south of the church was met by the Bishop, who said to the Mayor, "Sir Mayor (*domine Maior*),[3] certain citizens have often been to me and asked to have a copy of a certain Papal bill lately obtained by the Curates of the City and I know not" [*ends abruptly*].

Fo. 274. *Eleccio Vic'.*

The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 32 Henry VI. [A.D. 1453], in the presence of Geoffrey "Fildyng," the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, John Atherlee, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Nicholas Wifold, William Gregory, John Norman, Stephen Forster, Thomas Canynges, John Derby, William Abraham, William Hulyn, Christopher Warter, Richard Alley, Richard Lee, Thomas Scot, and William Dere, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, John Walden, grocer, was elected one of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex by the Mayor, and Thomas Cook, junior, draper, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day John Sturgeon, mercer, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, and Thomas Davy, tailor, were

[1] Probably referring to the confirmation of Niger's ordinance by Pope Nicholas, mentioned *supra*.

[2] Thomas Kempe.

[3] See note *subra*, p. 243.

elected Wardens of London Bridge; Richard Lee, Thomas Scot, Aldermen, Ralph Verney, William Chattok, John Maldone, and William Latoner, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the said Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

The Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], the same year, in the presence of Geoffrey Felding, the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broun, John Hatherle, John Olney, Simon Eyre, Nicholas Wifold, William Gregory, John Norman, Robert Horn, Stephen Forster, John Derby, Thomas Canynges, Thomas Scot, William Cantelowe, William Abraham, William Marowe, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Christopher Warter, William Dere, Richard Alley, Geoffrey Boleyn, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, John Norman was elected. Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fo. 274 b. The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454], a proposal by John Derby, Alderman, to be discharged from his Aldermanry,[1] on payment of £50, considered by the Common Council, and further consideration adjourned. On the 19th Oct. following, his proposal was accepted, with great regret, and it was resolved that he might continue to wear his gown, not as a judge (*judex*) nor as an Alderman, but for the purpose of keeping him warm in severe weather, and that every token of respect should continue to be shown to him.

Fo. 275. Inspeximus charter of Henry VI. to the town of "Maudone."[2] Dated Westminster, 8 April, anno 32 [A.D. 1454]. It inspects

[1] Candlewick Ward.

[2] Maldon, co. Essex.

(*inter alia*) a charter granted to the same town by King Henry II. at the instance of W[illiam] de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, and dated at Pembroke, 7 Oct. [*s.a.*].[1]

Carta libertatis ville de Maudon'.

Fo. 275 b.

That no freman sute a nother oute of this Citie.

"Forasmuche as amonges oþer many full commodiouse and notable franchieses and free libertees graunted unto þe Mair and Citeseins of þis Cite of London and to their successours for ev'more by þe noble progenitours of þe King our sovereigne lord þat nowe is and by hym graciously confermed, and aswele by auctorite of many and sundry parlementz accepted approved Ratefied and confermed it is conteygned þat no maner persone enfranchiesed in þe said Cite shuld emplete nor pursue any maner acc'on ayenst any oþer persone enfranchiesed of þe same without þe liberte þerof Whiles or if he myght have þerof any right or lawe herewithin, Wherunto every suche persone enfranchiesed was sworn in especial when he was first admytted into franchise and liberte aforseid. And eke how among othir of þe saide franchises & libertees it is conteyned þ^t what maner persone so enfranchiesed of þe said Cite go or do ayenst the state þerof or ayenst þe othe þat he made when he was admytted into þe Franchiese of þe same Citee he shall forfaite & leese his liberte forseid And by asmuche as diverse suche persones now adayes so enfranchiesed in þe same Citee not havyng considerac'on unto þe premisses nor duely regarding their othe made in þis behalf þe more pitee is, enforcen them fro day to daye to pursue and emplete oþer Conciteseins of þe saide Cite withoute þe liberte therof for suche maters and causes of acc'on wherof þey myght have þeir right & lawe herewithin, in emblemysshing and breche of þe seid libertees & franchieses & in comon hurt of þe same Cite in sondry wises. Therfore John Norman Mair and thaldermen with þe full assent of þe Comons of þe saide Citee in their comon counsell holden in þe Guildehall of London þe ix daie of August the xxxii^th yeer of þe reigne of King Herry the sexth [A.D. 1454] in conservac'on of þe seid libertees and franchieses have provided establisshed and ordeyned þat if any suche persone enfranchiesed in þe saide Cite from hensforth Do

[1] The charter of Henry II. is printed in Morant's 'Hist. of Essex,' i. 331.

emplete or sue oute of þe liberte of þe same Cite any acc'on or acc'ons ayenst any oþer persone so beyng enfraunchiesed in þe same Cite Wherof he may have lawe and right herewithin and þe same suter at þe complaynte of þe partie so sued be comaunded by þe Mair of this Cite for þe tyme beyng to relinquisshe and withdrawe any suche sute or acc'on taken or hangyng and do not, that then he forfaite and leese his saide franchise and over þat satisfie þe partie so sued of his costes and damages born susteyned & hadde by enchesoun of þe seid foreyn sute or acc'on And neverthelesse to make a fyne unto þe Chamber for þe contempt according to þe discrecc'on of þe Mair and thaldermen of þe seid Cite for þe tyme beyng."

Fo. 276. The King's letters of protection for William Dekene, "armorer," who was in the retinue of Gervase Clyftone, Knt., Treasurer of the town of Calais. Witness the King at Westminster, 11 Feb., 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454-5].

Fo. 276 b. 24 Feb., 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454-5], came the Wardens and good men of the Mistery of Horners into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented the following petition:—

Ordinacio de Horners.

"To the right honurable and good lord the Mair and worshipfull soveraignes thaldermen of the Citee of London Besechen in right humble wise the good Folkes of the mistier of horners enfraunchised of this Citee that your good graces will ordeign and graunte that the pointes and articles hereafter folowyng in writyng may be affermed establisshed and enrolled afore you to remayne of Record perpetuelly for the grete wele and proffite of your said besechers and for the honeste of the said mistier

"First in asmoche as the makyng of hornes and other werke perteignyng unto their said mistier beth not profitely hadd nor conned in eny Region or place of the world except in this land onely which causeth the people of other londes and places to resorte and repaire unto this Citee for hornes yeerly unto the grete proffite and worshipe of the same Citee, where as yef suche people of straunge londes myght clierly and profitely

understonde the konnyng and fete of makyng of suche englisshe hornes wold not hider repaire yeerly to bye suche englisshe chaffar'. In considerac'on wherof it like youre sadd wisdoms to ordeign and graunte that no manere of persone of the said craft wythin this Citee or the libertees of the same from hensforth do make nor werke eny werke belongyng to the said craft to eny other persone to give him knoweleche and lernyng of the fete and science of the same craft but yef he have beene apprentice and freman made by apprenticialite of the same craft withine this Citee before tyme upone peyne to forfaite and paye unto the Chaumber of the yeldhalle xiij*s*. iiij*d*. and to the forsaid craft vj*s*. viij*d*. as oft tymes as he may be founde doyng the contrarie therof

"Item in eschuyng of the grete and corrupt stenche and grevous noyance of neyghbours before tymes caused in this Citee by bying and cuttyng of grene hornes oute of hides within this Citee to ordeign and graunte that no manere persone of the seide mistier from hensforth take upon him to kutte or do kutte eny hornes from such hides in eny of the bocheries or elles where w^in the libertee of this Citee nor bye or do bye eny suche hornes in the bones nor oute of the bones of eny bocher or bochers man or elles where within the liberte of this Citee but yef they be oute of the bones upone peyne aforesaid

"Item for the conservac'on of the good peas accord and unite betwix the people of the said craft hereafter It can please you also to ordeign and graunte that no manere persone of the said craft do revile or rebuke or utter eny vilonious wordes or dishonest and unsittyng [*sic*] langage to eny other persone of the said craft upon peyne to forfaite and paye unto the said Chaumber iij*s*. iiij*d*. and xx*d*. unto the said craft as oft tymes as eny suche persone shall be lawefully convict of doyng the contrarie."

The above articles approved subject to amendment.[1]

[Fos. 277, 277 b *blank*.]

[1] This petition, transcribed from the Letter-Book, is to be found in the manuscript volume of the sixteenth century recently acquired by the Horners' Company.

Fo. 278. 31 Oct., A.D. 1454, adjudication made by Thomas Tyrell, Knt., and Thomas Billyng, Serjeant-at-law, acting as arbitrators in a dispute between the City of London and merchants of Genoa touching the payment of "Scawage," to the effect that all merchants of Genoa should pay in respect of such custom a yearly sum of £28 for their merchandise brought to the City from Southampton.

This adjudication was laid before the Lords of the Council on the 3rd December and ordered to be placed on record; and the same was approved by the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Commonalty under the Common Seal of the City on the 20th February, A.D. 1454[5].

Fo. 278 b. Saturday the Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454], in the presence of John Norman, the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broun, John Hatherle, William Gregory, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Geoffrey "Fildyng," Robert Horn, Stephen Forster, Thomas Scot, Thomas Canynges, William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, William Marowe, William Abraham, Richard Alley, William Dere, Geoffrey Boleyn, Matthew Philip, Richard Lee, and John Derby, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, William Taillour, grocer, was elected one of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex by the Mayor, and John Feld, fishmonger, was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day Thomas Thorntone, draper, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, draper, and Thomas Davy, tailor, were elected Wardens of London Bridge; William Hulyn, Richard Lee, Aldermen, Ralph Verney, William Chattok, Thomas Wynslowe, and John Plummer, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts in arrear of the Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Acquittance by Stephen Forster, Mayor, and William Taillour and John Feld, the Sheriffs, to certain merchants of Janua for the sum of £14 in part payment of a yearly sum of £28 due to the City by merchants of Genoa for the custom on goods passing to the City from the port of Southampton called "Scawage." Dated 3 March, 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454-5]. *Scavadge paye per m'catores Janue.*

The Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454], in the presence of John Norman, the Mayor, Thomas Billyng the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Henry Frowik, Stephen Broun, John Hatherlee, Simon Eyre, John Olney, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, Robert Horne, Stephen Forster, Thomas Canynges, Thomas Scot, William Cantelowe, William Abraham, William Marowe, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Christopher Warter, William Dere, Richard Alley, and Richard Lee, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Stephen Forster was by the grace of the Holy Spirit elected. Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer. Fo. 279.

28 Jan., 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454-5], came Richard Brid or Bridde, draper, Ralph Josselyn, draper, Thomas Ryles, draper, and William Baldewyn, "sherman," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £20, the same to be void on condition the said Richard Brid pays a like sum to the Chamberlain as soon as William, son of John Dommere, who had been bound apprentice to the said Richard, and to whom the money belongs, shall have come of age. Fo. 279 b.

3 March, 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454-5], came Henry Belle, salter, Robert Basset, salter, Andrew Kebelle, "gentilman," William Rose, "irmonger," and Peter Draper, "irmonger," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen,

and entered into bond with Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £10 [*condition of bond not recorded*].

Fo. 280. 6 March, the same year, came William Sevester, John Seymour, John Shilley, and John Chambre, mercers, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £10, the same to be void on condition the said William Sevester, who married Elizabeth, late wife of Roger Hawardyn, late draper, pays a like sum in Court to the Chamberlain as soon as Johanna, daughter of the said Roger, shall have come of age, the money being her patrimony.

Fo. 280 b. Monday, 10 March, 30 [*sic*][1] Henry VI., came Nicholas Broke, "wodemonger," John Sturgeon, mercer, Thomas Rykes, mercer, Richard Everle, mercer, and William Elmet, dyer, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 80 marks, for the payment of the like sum by the said Nicholas Broke to the Chamberlain for the time being, when William, son of William Broke, late "waxchaundeler," shall have come of age, the money being the orphan's patrimony.[2]

Fos. 280 b-281. *Commissio pro Alieniginis.* Letters patent commissioning the Keepers of the peace and Sheriffs of the City to search for and make a return of all foreigners liable to the alien tax granted by the Parliament held at Reading on the 6th March, 31 Henry VI. [A.D. 1452-3], to the King for life.[3] Witness the King at Westminster, 12 Nov., 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454].

Fo. 281 b. Mandamus to the Mayor and Sheriffs to bring up the body of John "Mabywe," baker, detained in prison, and certify the cause of his detention. Witness the King at Saltwode, 8 Sept., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455].

[1] Evidently a mistake for 33.

[2] A marginal note refers to the Journal [No. 5], fo. 232, where it is recorded that on the 7th Feb., 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454-5], Richard Alley, Alderman, delivered to the Chamberlain certain pieces of silver plate, &c., bequeathed to the above orphan by his father.

[3] Imposed for the first time in 1439, and subsequently renewed. Cf. *supra*, p. 236. 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 230.

Return made to the above to the effect that the said John "Mabywe" had been committed to prison for refusing to pay "pesage" for grinding and weighing his corn and flour,[1] and for using opprobrious language, but that his body should be brought up pursuant to the King's writ.

17 July, 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], Thomas Cok, mercer, discharged by Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. Fo. 282.

Thursday, 28 August, the same year, came John, son of Alexander Anne, an orphan of the City, and of full age, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before the Mayor and Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony of £20.

[Fo. 282 b *blank*.]

6 Aug., 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], came John Kippyng and Richard Raulyn, grocers, John Langwith, tailor, and John Cotyngham, fishmonger, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into a bond with Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £31 for the payment of 40 marks and the delivery of certain silver cups to the Chamberlain for the use of Robert and William, sons of Thomas Dunham, late fishmonger, as soon as they shall have come of age, the same having been bequeathed to the said orphans by their father. Fo. 283.

4 Aug., 9 Edward IV. [A.D. 1469], came the above Robert Dunham into Court, before William Taillour, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his property.

Tuesday, 23 Sept., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], Richard Herryes, "armorer," discharged by Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age. *Exon' Ric'i Herryes ab assis'.*

Friday, 19 Sept., the same year, came Thomas Chambre, "gentilman," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Forster, the Mayor,

[1] Cf. *supra*, pp. 358-60.

Thomas Ursewyk the Recorder, and the Aldermen, and was presented before them by Thomas Burgoyn and Roger Birkes, the Under Sheriffs, as an Attorney in the Sheriffs' Court, and was sworn and admitted.

Fo. 283 b.

Eleccio Vicecom'.

The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], in the presence of Stephen Forster, the Mayor, Thomas Urswyke the Recorder, Henry Frowik, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, Stephen Broun, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, Thomas Scotte, William Abraham, William Marowe, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Christopher Warter, Geoffrey Boleyn, William Cantelowe, William Dere, John Waldene, and Richard Alley, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, John Yonge was elected one of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex by the Mayor, and Thomas Oulegreve was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day Thomas "Thorndone," draper, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Cook, senior, and Thomas Davy were elected Wardens of London Bridge; Matthew Philip, William Hulyn, Aldermen, John Lok, Richard Nedeham, Thomas Wynslo, and John Plummer [Commoners] were elected Auditors of the accounts of the Chamberlain and Wardens in arrear.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

L'ra d'ni Regis directa Maiori Aldr'is et Vicecom' London'.

Letter from King Henry VI. to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of the City, in the following terms:—

"Trusty and welbeloved We wrote unto you nowe late oure othr l'res upon certeyn informac'ons made unto us that if it so were suche attemptatz were doon as was seid ayenst the libertees and privileges of our privilegied Churche and College of Saint Martyns within oure Citee of London by taking oute from the same diverse personnes that claymed the Immunite therof Wherupon we had matier and cause of displeasir as of reason we owed so to have if it so had be. Willyng therupon

that ye shulde restore the said personnes unto oure said place The whiche oure l'res we sente muche the sonner unto you because relac'on was made unto us that as this day it shuld have be proceded to thexecucion of their personnes. So it is nowe by that we have herde by the Recordo^{r} of oure said Citee and othr' with hym commen from you that the matier requireth good and sadde direccion Wherfore we write unto you at this tyme doyng to wite that we have delibered that our Chauncellr' and othr' lordes spirituell and temporell of oure Counseill callyng to theym the Juges of oure lawes shal have the matier in examinac'on and so by their advis it to be determyned as the cas requireth Charging you that in the meane tyme ther be no processe ner execucion doon ayenst theym by way of arraienement but that they be seurely kept as personnes of suche disposicion withouten any unreasonable duresse and of yo^{r} good and sadde demeanyng in kepyng of oure peas We thanke you as we have cause so to doo and desire you to contynue Latyng you wite that we wol see that ye have and enjoye the franchises & libertees of oure saide Citee to you by us and oure noble progenitours graunted and confermed as largely and freely as ye have had in tyme passed Yeven undre oure signet of the Egle at oure Castell of Hertford the xxvij daye of Septembre " [A.D. 1455].[1]

Eleccio Maior'.

The Feast of Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], in the presence of Stephen Forster, the Mayor, Thomas Urswike the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broun, John Hatherle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng,

[1] During the national commotions of 1455 some of the bad characters who had taken refuge within the precinct of St. Martin le Grand broke out and severely assaulted several of the citizens, retiring again into sanctuary. They were, however, forcibly taken out and committed to prison by the civic authorities. Thereupon the Dean had, as on former occasions, complained to the King, who was then in Hertfordshire, of breach of privilege. The result was as here recorded. The City was treated with consideration, and directed to keep its prisoners until the matter could be fully investigated. —Kempe, *op. cit.*, pp. 145-6. See also Fabyan (pp. 629-30), where the King is described as then "lying at the castell of Egle in Herefordeshyre"!

John Norman, Robert Horn, Thomas Canynges, William Abraham, William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, William Deer, Christopher Warter, Richard Lee, John Walden, Aldermen, John Yonge and Thomas Oulegreve, the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, William Marowe was elected. Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Exoneracio Irrotulamentor' aptrenticior' quorumcumque Joh'is Derby Aldr'i etc solvend'.

The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], ordinance by Stephen Forster, the Mayor, Thomas Urswick the Recorder, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broun, John Hatherle, Symon Eyre, John Olney, William Gregory, Geoffrey Felding, John Norman, Thomas Scot, William Abraham, William Marowe, Matthew Philip, Christopher Warter, Richard Alley, William Deer, Geoffrey Boleyn, and John Walden, Aldermen, in the Inner Chamber of the Guildhall, that John Derby, draper and late Alderman, should, like other Aldermen, pay nothing for enrolment of his apprentices,[1] in acknowledgment of his past services.

Fo. 284.

Exon'acio Roberti Stephen.

15 Oct., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], Robert Stephen, tailor, discharged by Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exoneracio Ric'i Saunder.

The same day Richard Saunder, "malemaker," similarly discharged for like cause.

Exoneracio Joh'is Abbey groceri.

17 Oct., the same year, John Abbey, grocer, similarly discharged for like cause.

Custodia pueror' Roberti Stokker.

Monday, 20 Oct., the same year, came John Stokker, "draper," John Styward, "chaundeler," William Swan, draper, John Hynde, draper, and John Pake, junior, draper, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £160, for the payment of the sum of £40 to the

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 446n.

Chamberlain for the time being, by the said John Stokker, when Petronilla, John junior, Robert, and William, children of Robert Stokker, late draper, shall respectively come of age.

23 Oct., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], John Streme, tailor, discharged by Stephen Forster, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to infirmity. Fo. 284 b.

Exon'ac'o Joh'is Streme.

Letter from William Marowe, the Mayor, to Thomas [Kempe], Bishop of London, presenting Sir Bartholomew Colet, Rector of Danbury [co. Essex], for admission as chaplain of the chantry founded by Roger Beyvyn in the chapel over the bones of the dead in St. Paul's Churchyard,[1] in exchange with John Trafford, chaplain of the same. Dated 4 Oct., A.D. 1455.

Permutacio cum cantar' sup' ossamenta mortuor' in cimiterio Sc'i Pauli London'.

A certificate made by William Marowe, the Mayor, and Roger Tonge, clerk for recognizances of debts in the City under the Statute of Acton Burnel, to Thomas [Bourchier], Archbishop of Canterbury and Chancellor of England, to the effect that Roger Perpoint, of Landeford, co. Nott, "gentilman," and John his son, had been bound to pay to Edward Grymstone, esquire, the sum of £90 8*s.* 5*d.* by a certain day, and had not paid it. He is, therefore, desired to effect payment of the same pursuant to the said statute.[2]

Certificacio fact' d'no Cancellar' Anglie sup' expiracione cujusdam obligaco'is sub sigill' statut' mercator' etc.

10 Jan., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455-6], proceedings taken against Andrew Devyne of Venice for acting as a broker within the City, although not duly admitted, and he committed Fo. 285.

[1] See the will of Roger Beyvin, proved and enrolled in the Court of Husting in 1278 ('Cal. of Wills,' &c., i. 29). The bones of this Charnel House, over which the chapel stood, were removed in 1549 to Finsbury, and the chapel and charnel were converted into "dwelling houses, ware houses and sheades before them for Stacioners in place of the Tombes." Stow, 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 330.

[2] The Statute of Acton Burnel (11 Edw. I., A.D. 1283) enacted (*inter alia*) that if a debtor had no movables within the jurisdiction of the Mayor whereon the debt might be levied, but had some elsewhere within the realm, the Mayor shall "send the Recognisance made before him and the Clerk aforesaid unto the Chancellor under the King's seal, and the Chancellor shall direct a writ unto the Sheriff, in whose Bailiwick the Moveables of the Debtor be, and the Sheriff shall cause him to agree with his Creditor in such form as the Mayor should have done in case that the Moveables had been within his Power." 'Statutes at Large' (ed. 1758), i. 75. Cf. 'Cal. Letter-Book A,' p. 79 n.; 'Cal. F,' p. 111 'Cal. G,' p. 67.

to prison. A writ of *habeas corpus cum causa* thereupon issued. The matter argued in the King's Chancery by both parties. Judgment given for the City and its liberties.

Fo. 285 b. Tuesday, 2 Dec., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], came John Silvestre, "sadeler," Richard Lokwode, John Cornyssh, "sadeler," John Abell, "sadeler," and John Bourtone, "sadeler," into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Marowe, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £20, for the payment of a like sum to the Chamberlain for the time being, for the use of Beatrix, daughter of Bertrand Saunz, late vintner, when she comes of age or marries.

Custodia filie Bertrandi Saunz.

Exoneracio viginti libr' p'tinenc' Jocose infra script'.

3 Dec., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], came John Silvester, "sadeler," who married Jocosa, daughter of Bertrand Saunz, late vintner, into the Court of the lord the King, before the said Mayor and the Aldermen, and acknowledged that he had received his wife's patrimony of £20 from John Adys, goldsmith.

4 Dec., the same year, came the above John Adys into Court and delivered to Thomas Thorntone, the Chamberlain, the sum of £20 to be kept by him for the benefit of Beatrix, daughter of Bertrand Saunz, as soon as she comes of age or marries.

Fo. 286. 15 Dec., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455], William Turnham, draper, discharged by William Marowe, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Exon'acio Will'i Turnham ab' assis'.

8 Feb., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455-6], ...[1] similarly discharged for like cause.

Proclamation forbidding ungodly contracts and unclean bargains of usury, and offering relief to those who have suffered therefrom [*ends abruptly*].

Fo. 286 b. 15 Feb., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455-6], John Martyn, "peautrer," discharged by William "Marwe," the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

[1] The name "John Taillour" (?) has been erased.

27 Feb., 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455-6], came the Wardens and other good men of the Mistery of Foundours into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Marowe, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and presented a petition as follows:—

"Unto the right reverend lord and maistres the Maire and Aldermen of the Citee of London

"Shewen mekely alle the goodmen of the Crafte of Foundours of the same Cite that where before this tyme ther hath be of the saide crafte a competent felisship of men of thrifte hable to bere and supporte charges of this Citee as the goodmen of othr' suche pouere Craftes of this Citee dooth and have doo unto nowe late that for lak of governaunce and of good reule the forsaide Crafte is gretly empoverisshed and almoste destroyed Wherfore it please you to ordeyn and graunte that thise articles folowing maye be observed and kept herafter and in yo^{r} Courte entred of recorde

"First where as before this tyme every man of þe saide Crafte hath ben at his liberte to take Apprentices as many as hath pleased hym, so þat some persones þ^{t} hath had scarcely to finde hym self eithr' werk or mete or drynke hath taken and useth to take iij or iiij Apprentices and them may neithr' can teche nor finde, Wherby good mens children of the Contrey have be gretely deceyved and this Cite disclaundered, It is accorded and ordeyned that no person of the forseid Crafte aftre this tyme take receyve ner have mo apprenticez then ij togedres at ones, And þat every persone of þe saide Craft er his apprentice be bounde unto hym shewe þe saide apprentice to the Wardeyns of þe same Craft þat shal be for the tyme that they mown knowe and see þat he be hole of lymmes[1] for the worship' of this Citee upon peyne of xl*s*. to paie half to þe Chambre and þat othr' half to þe seide Craft. Savyng alwey that it shall be leefull to every hable persone of the seide Crafte ij yeer before eny of þe seide

[1] In 1420 it had been ordained that no one was to become an apprentice who was not handsome of stature and had not straight and proper limbs. See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 250.

ij apprentices termes shal expire to take an ɔbere apprentice ƀa he maie be sumwhat lerned in the seide Craft ayenst the termes ende of ƀat ɔbere apprentice, And so evere to take a newe apprentice ij yeer before thende of ƀe terme of every apprentice.

"Also it is ordeyned ƀat no persone of ƀe seid craft ƀat maketh or dooth to make any furneys to melt in metall or queser[1] or herth to nele in mouldes ƀat it be not occupied ner set awerk unto ƀe tyme that the Wardeins of ƀe same Craft serche and see ƀat it be sufficient and hable to eschewe peril of fire upon the peyne aboveseide.

"Also ƀat no persone of ƀe saide Crafte have nor send ware longing to ƀe same craft oute of this Citee to no market nor feire unto ƀe tyme ƀat ƀe Wardeins of ƀe craft upon reasonable warnyng to them geven by thowner therof have seen and in due tyme serched if it be true stuf and truely wrought upon the forseide peyne."[2]

The above articles approved subject to revision by the Mayor and Aldermen.

"Be it Remembred that the xxvijth day of Marche the xxjth yeere of the Reign of Kyng Edward the iiijth [A.D. 1481] It is accorded by John Broune Mair and the Aldremen of the Citee of London that it shal be lefull to every persone of the saide Craft of Founders to take and have an'[3] other apprentice ovir & beside ij apprenticez accordyng to the ordenaunce abovesaid by ƀe settyng over of the Chamb'leyn of ƀe said Citee for the tyme being and so to have iij apprenticez togeder & in no noƀere wise &c."

3 Sept., 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], Walter Hunte, grocer, discharged by William "Marwe," Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.[4]

[1] In a similar ordinance made in 1592 the word is spelt "qweser." Repertory 22, fo. 392 b. Probably a scoop or ladle wherein to melt small quantities of metal. Cf. Fr. *cuire*, *cuisine*.

[2] No mention is made either of these ordinances or of the ordinances of 1389 (see 'Cal. Letter-Book H,' p. 348) in the 'History of the Founders' Company,' by W. M. Williams.

[3] Ane, *i.e.*, one.

[4] Also recorded *infra*, p. 380.

Fo. 287.

L're etc sub privato sigillo Maiori Aldr'is et vic' pro conservaco'e pac' infra Civitatem London' direct'.

Letter of Privy Seal to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of the City reminding them of disturbances that had lately arisen which threatened danger to the City[1]—"the King's Chamber"—and enjoining them to allow no one to enter the City except he came peaceably and with a moderate retinue as became his estate and degree. Dated at Lychefeld, 3 Sept., 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456].[2]

Pleas held in the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Thomas Canyng', Mayor, the Aldermen, and John Steward and Ralph Verney, the Sheriffs, on Tuesday, 14 June, 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457]:—

Austyn Cassyn, merchant of "Jean," attached to answer a charge of having on the 15 Sept., 33 Henry VI. [A.D. 1454], and with the aid of Richark Cok, "couper," servant to Richard Hergode, "couper," "falsely and decevably contrefeted coloured dubbed and medled vj pipes of white Rochell wyne olde and feble of colour and tast thenne in þe celer of þe said Austyn there beyng with rede wyne called teynt[3] and with eggs alom gummes and oþere horrible & unholsome thinges for to induce & bring ageyn a pleasant colo[r] to þe sight and likly maner drinkyng of rede wyne to þe tarrage[4] smelle and taste of þe people"—contrary to the ordinance.

[Fos. 287 b-288 *blank*.]

Fo. 288 b.

L're etc de privato sigillo pro malefactor' et pirat' quasdam naves divers' lanis onustas apud Tilbery fery spoliantib' capiendis arrestand' et imprisonand'.

Letter of Privy Seal [to the Mayor, &c.], ordering the seizure of certain ships of war of Calais and Sandwich which had unlawfully attacked ships of Zeland, laden with wool and other merchandise belonging to Italian merchants, in the Thames at or near Tilbury, when under the King's safe conduct, to the discouragement of all commercial intercourse, on which the

[1] Alluding, probably, to the disturbance or "hurlynge," as it was called, that had recently taken place in the City between mercers of the City and Lombards.—Gregory, p. 199.

[2] Set out in Sharpe's 'London and the Kingdom,' iii. 376-7.

[3] An early mention of Tent as a wine. Mr. André Simon, in his 'Hist. of the Wine Trade in England' (ii. 242), finds it mentioned for the first time in Galway in 1578.

[4] *Tarage* appearance (Halliwell). Cf.—

"In every part the *tarage* is the same,
Liche his fader of maneris and of name."—MS. Digby 232, fo. 1.

welfare of the nation so much depended. Dated at Coventre, 10 March [A.D. 1456-7].[1]

L're d'ni Reg' regraciator' sub signeto suo etc l'ras p'dc'as in parte recitantes.

Letter under the King's signet to the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Commonalty of the City, thanking them for their attempts made to arrest the ships which had unlawfully attacked foreign merchant vessels in the Thames, and bidding them to seize the ships when found in their jurisdiction, and also to suppress any disturbance that might arise in the City. Dated at Kenilworth Castle, 22 March [A.D. 1456-7].[2]

Fo. 289.

Veredc'm Jurat' s. q'd novum edificium etc situat' in Corn'io angulari vici de Lombardestrete assideri debet et taxari int' hoi'es Warde de Bisshoppesgate.

8 April, 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], precept by the Mayor and Aldermen to John West and Thomas Dounham, Serjeants-at-mace to the Mayor, to summon good men from the following Wards, viz., Cornhill, Lymestrete, Bridge, and Billingsgate, to inquire whether a new building with its shops, &c., situate in the churchyard of All Hallows Graschirche, from the corner of Lumbardestrete on the north side as far as the said church, belongs to the Ward of Langbourn or the Ward of Bisshopesgate. On the 15th April the jurors met, viz., John Shopman, John Gugge, Thomas Pyriell, and Stephen Salman of the Ward of Cornhill, John Estwelle and John Neweman of the Ward of Lymestrete, Thomas Partriche, John Stephens, Richard Frecok, Nicholas Balke, and Richard Whaplode of the Ward of Bridge,[3] and they found that the building in question was situate in the Ward of Bisshopesgate and not in that of Langbourn, and its tenants ought to pay subsidies, &c., in the former Ward, accordingly.

Return made to a writ of *habeas corpus* [not recorded] by Thomas Canyng', Mayor, John Steward and Ralph Verney, the Sheriffs, to the effect that Elizabeth Rypley had been committed to prison, according to the immemorial custom of the City, for leading an immoral life in the house of a Lombard in the Ward of Walbroke.

Fo. 289 b.

Wednesday, 21 April, 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], came John Walsha, Thomas Bernewey, and Richard Payne, drapers, John

[1] Set out in 'London and the Kingdom' (iii. 377-9).

[2] Set out *ibid.*, pp. 379-80.

[3] No jurors are recorded for Billingsgate Ward.

Kendale, "peautrer," and George Irland, grocer, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William "Marwe," Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas "Thorndone," the Chamberlain, in the sum of £1,400.

The above recognizances to be void provided that the said George Irland, who married Margaret, the widow of Thomas Hawkyn, pay, or cause to be paid, into Court the patrimony due to Thomas, Richard, Elizabeth, and Johanna, children of the said Thomas Hawkyn, so soon as they come of age, or, being females, marry.

A schedule of silver plate presumably the property of the children of the above Thomas Hawkyn, comprising (*inter alia*) the following, viz., half a dozen cups "paris werk," covered; a "becur" cup, covered, with a "faucon"; a standing cup, covered, with "pomell of levys"[1]; "rose" cups, covered; a spice plate; a pair of "trumpesalers"[2]; a dozen spoons with square "pomells"; a "chalis cup gilt chast with plummetes" (?)[3]; a "notte," covered, with a "wodewose"[4]; a "serpentyne"[5] cup; a great "maser" with a turning "borselle"[6]; a standing "maser" with a "prent"[7]; a flat pouder box; and a pair of "saltsalers chased wrethe." Fo. 290.

5 March, 5 Edward IV. [A.D. 1464-5], John Brokford *alias* Wakeley admitted a surety by the Court for goods bequeathed

[1] "Pomel" appears to be synonymous with "knop." Cf. *pomellum amellatum de azuro cum j chapellette viridi et iiij rosis albis.* See Paper on 'English Medieval Drinking Bowls called Mazers,' by W. H. St. John Hope, F.S.A. (*Archæol.*, vol. 50).

[2] Trumpet-shaped salt cellars.

[3] Little balls like plummets (of lead).

[4] The figure of a "wild man of the woods," a satyr or faun. See *Notes and Queries*, 10 Dec., 1910, pp. 471-2.

[5] "Cf. a Sarpentyne cuppe fassheon with a cover of a masor garnysshed with sylver" (*Archæol.*, vol. 50). So called from its being made of a mineral of a rich green colour known as "serpentine," from its being of a spotted or mottled appearance resembling a serpent's skin.

[6] *Bourselle* = a mariner's compass or dyall (Cotgrave). The mazer thus had for its cover, in all probability, a dial which could be turned round = a *turnyng borsell.*

[7] A circular medallion found at the bottom of every mazer, and sometimes known as *founce* or *frounce*, and sometimes as the *boss.*

to the children of Thomas Hawkyn, *loco* John "Walsa," Alderman, before Ralph Josselyn, Mayor, and the Aldermen, and he entered into bond with Robert Colwych, the Chamberlain.

17 Aug., 8 Edward IV. [A.D. 1468], came Alan Lumour (?) and Johanna his wife, daughter of the above Thomas Hawkyn, and acknowledged satisfaction for his wife's patrimony.

Fo. 290 b.

Exon'acio Magr'i Gervasii etc ab Imposico'e alienigenar' nup' auctoritate Parliamenti d'no Regi concess' etc.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs of London, and also to the collectors of the tax recently imposed on foreigners by the last Parliament at Redyng,[1] not to exact the tax from Gervase le Vulre, one of the King's French Secretaries and a naturalized English subject, or from any of his household. Witness the King at Westminster, 13 July, 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456].

Exon'acio Walteri Hunt ab assisis.

3 Sept., 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], Walter Hunt, grocer, discharged by William "Marwe," Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.[2]

Br'e de proclamaco'e sup' quodam actu sive ordinaco'e sequent' et Silkewymmen tangen'.

Writ to the Sheriffs to cause proclamation to be made of an ordinance made in the last Parliament touching "Silkewymen" and "Throwesters" engaged on "Silkewerk" and herein enclosed. Witness the King at Westminster, 16 March, 34 Henry VI. [A.D. 1455-6].

Actus sive ordinac'o Silkewymmen concernen'.

The ordinance mentioned above set out, to the effect that with the view of protecting silk-women in their industry, no manufactured silk shall thenceforth be brought into England from abroad, except only from "Geene" (Genoa), under penalty of forfeiture and fine. The ordinance to remain in force for five years from Easter next.[3]

†

Fo. 291.

Monday, 4 Oct., 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], Ivo Machon' *alias* Yon' Machon' appointed a valet to the Water-bailiff of the Thames by William "Marwe," the Mayor, Stephen Broun, John Hathirley, Simon Eyre, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, Stephen Forster, Thomas Scot, William Hulyn, Richard Alley, Christopher Warter, John Walden, Richard

[1] The Parliament which met at Reading on the 6th March, 1453, had granted the alien tax (originally granted by the Parliament of 1439 and frequently renewed) to the King for the term of his life. *Vide supra*, pp. 236-7, note.

[2] Also recorded *supra*, p. 376.

[3] Set out in 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 325. Cf. Stat. 33 Henry VI., cap. v.

Lee, and John Middelton, Aldermen, in the Inner Chamber of the City; he to receive yearly the fee and clothing that Thomas Bedford, late valet, received.

The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], in the presence of William "Marwe," Mayor, Thomas Ursewyk, Recorder, Henry Frowik, John Olney, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, Thomas Scotte, William Abraham, William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, Richard Alley, Richard Lee, John Walden, Simon Eyre, John Athirle, Stephen Forster, William Horn, Matthew Philip, and John Middelton, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the ensuing year, John "Stiward" was elected one of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex by the Mayor, and Ralph Verney was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty. Fo. 291 b. *Eleccio Vic'.*

The same day Thomas Cook, senior, and Thomas Davy were elected Wardens of London Bridge; Matthew Philip and Richard Alley, Aldermen, John Lok, Richard Nedeham, Robert Drope, and William Norburgh, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts of the Chamberlain[1] and Wardens in arrear.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

The Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], in the presence of William Marwe, Mayor, Thomas Ursewik, Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Henry Frowyk, Stephen Broun, John Athirle, Simon Eyre, John Olney, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, Stephen Forster, Thomas Canyng', Thomas Scot, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Christopher Warter, Richard Alley, Richard Lee, and John Walden, Aldermen, John "Steward" and Ralph Verney, the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the ensuing year, Thomas Canyng' was elected. *Eleccio Maioris.*

[1] The election of Chamberlain on this occasion is not recorded.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

22 Oct., 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], John Godyn, grocer, discharged by William Marowe, Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., being over seventy years of age, pursuant to the King's writ on his behalf.

..... 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456], John Pembertone, vintner, discharged by Thomas Canyng', Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to his infirmities.

Fo. 292.

L'ra direct' d'no Regi per Maiorem et Aldr'os.

Letter from the Mayor and Aldermen of the City and Chamber of London to the King touching the capture of Sandwich by a French force,[1] and offering to fit out divers ships then lying in the Thames with 2,000 men or thereabouts to assist in repelling the enemy. They send Alderman Thomas Cook to the King for instructions. Dated 3 Sept. [A.D. 1457].[2]

Respons' l're predicte.

The King's reply to the above. Dated at Northamptone, 5 Sept. [A.D. 1457].

L'ra d'no Cancellar' Anglie per Maiorem et Aldr'os direct'.

Letter from the Mayor and Aldermen to [William Waynflete] the Bishop of Winchester and Chancellor of England, by the hand of Roger Tonge,[3] the Common Clerk of the City, similar in effect to the letter sent to the King touching the attack on Sandwich. Dated 3 Sept. [A.D. 1457].

Fo. 292 b.

Respons' l're p'dc'e.

Reply to the above. Dated at Waltham, 5 Sept. [A.D. 1457].[4]

[There is no folio 293.]

Fo. 294.

Writ to the Sheriffs for distraint of knighthood.[5] Witness the King at Westminster, 27 April, 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457].

[1] A French fleet had appeared off Sandwich early in the morning of Sunday, the 28th August. After pillaging the town and carrying off a number of merchant vessels, it was forced to withdraw. Cf. 'Three Fifteenth Cent. Chron.' (Camd. Soc., No. 28, N.S., pp. 70–1).

[2] Set out, together with the King's reply, in 'London and the Kingdom,' iii. 380-2.

[3] Otherwise known as Roger Spicer; appointed Common Clerk, 18 Nov., 25 Hen. VI. [A.D. 1446]. Journal 4, fo. 149. Cf. *supra*, p. 350n. Discharged in August, 1461, owing to his Lancastrian proclivities.

[4] Set out in 'London and the Kingdom,' iii. 383.

[5] For form of writ and return thereto, see 'Cal. Letter-Book F,' p. 105. Cf. 'Liber Albus,' i. 190–3.

Return made to the above by Ralph Verney and John Steward, Sheriffs. [No date.]

P'sentacio ad unam cant' v cantar' in capella bt [sic].

Letter from Thomas "Canynges," the Mayor, and Thomas "Thorndon," the Chamberlain, to Thomas Kempe, Bishop of London, presenting Master John Mordey to one of the five chantries founded by Adam Fraunceys and Henry Frowyk in the chapel of the B. V. Mary near the Guildhall, vacant by the death of John Newenham. Dated 24 April, A.D. 1457.

Admissio Laurencii Moyne in unum trium servientum ad clavam M'.

Friday, 17 Feb., 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456-7], in the Court of lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, there being present Thomas Canyng', the Mayor, John Hathirle, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, William Marwe, Thomas Scot, William Cantelowe, Richard Alley, Geoffrey Boleyn, William Hulyn, Richard Lee, Christopher Warter, John Middeltone, John Felde, and Ralph Josselyn, Aldermen, it was unanimously agreed that Laurence Moyne should be one of the three permanent Serjeants-at-mace attached to the Mayor, he receiving the usual yearly fee and other profits.

Fo. 294 b.

Presentacio M'ri Johannis Mordey ad unam cantariam v cantariar' Guyhalde.

Another letter from the Mayor and Chamberlain to the Bishop of London touching the admittance of John Mordey to the vacant chantry in the Guildhall chapel. Dated 26 April, A.D. 1457.

12 June, 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], Walter Drope, "bocher," discharged by Thomas Canyng', Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

The same day came William Rotheley, goldsmith, and asked permission of the lord the Mayor (*a domino Maiore*) to prosecute John Johnson, senior, butcher, outside the City, inasmuch as the said John had prosecuted the said William in divers courts outside the City without the Mayor's permission, contrary to his oath and the franchises of the City, and had not appeared nor withdrawn his prosecution at the Mayor's bidding. Permission granted.

12 July, 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], Richard Messinger, goldsmith, discharged by Thomas Canyng', Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to his infirmities.

17 Sept., 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], William Blakman, "talloughchaundeller," similarly discharged for like cause.

..... John "Grodyng," taverner (*pandoxator*), similarly discharged for like cause.[1]

Fo. 295. 20 July, 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], William Rote, saddler, similarly discharged for like cause.

The same day John Maldone, grocer, similarly discharged for like cause.

Letters patent presented to Thomas Canyng', the Mayor, and the Aldermen on behalf of the Provost and Scholars of the royal college of the Blessed Mary and St. Nicholas at Cambridge,[2] touching immunity from divers tolls, &c., granted with the assent of the Parliament which commenced to sit at Westminster on the 25th Feb., 23 Henry VI. [A.D. 1444-5], to the Provost and Scholars of the said College and their successors.[3] Whereupon came Hugh Fern' and Roger Alright, "husbondmen," tenants of the said Provost and Scholars in their manor of Rislepe, co. Middlesex, and complained to the said Mayor and Aldermen that John Steward and Ralph Verney, the Sheriffs, had unlawfully demanded toll of them, and prayed that it might be restored, and that thenceforth the said Provost and Scholars and their tenants might be held quit of toll. Thereupon restitution was ordered by the Mayor and Aldermen, and toll not to be taken in future.

7 Sept., 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], Thomas Welles, draper, discharged by Thomas Canyng', Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Fo. 295 b. 10 Sept., the same year, John "Godyng," taverner, similarly discharged for like cause.[4]

6 Oct., 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], came German Lynce, goldsmith, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Thomas Canyng', Mayor, and the

[1] Cf. *infra*, fo. 295 b.

[2] Otherwise known as King's College, Cambridge, founded by Henry VI. in July, 1443. That St. Nicholas was chosen as one of the patron saints of the College was no doubt due to the King's birthday being on that saint's day (6 Dec.).

[3] 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 87 *et seq.*

[4] Cf. above.

Aldermen, and presented certain letters patent of safe conduct under the Great Seal sealed with white wax, exempting him from serving divers offices, and dated at Westminster, 6 July, 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457].

Fo. 296.

Presentacio ad cantar' in capella juxta guyhald' pro al'a Rog'i de Depeham.

Letter from Thomas Canyng', the Mayor, and Thomas Ursewik, the Recorder, to Thomas [Kempe], Bishop of London, presenting Sir John Sylam, a chaplain of the diocese of Lincoln, for admission to the chantry founded by Roger de Depeham in the Chapel of the Blessed Mary near the Guildhall, then vacant. [No date.]

"*Examynac'ons taken and hadde the Friday next after the Feast of Corpus Christi* [9 *June*] *the xxxv*th *yeer of* þe *reign of King Henri the vi*th [A.D. 1457] *and diverse tymes sithen before Thomas Canyng' Mair and thaldermen of* þe *Citee of London of the persones heraft' folowing of and upon certeyn confederacies & compassamentz purposed and ymagined to have be commytted and doon the same daye within the saide Citee contrary to* þe *Kinges peas ageyns* þe *marchantz estraungiers if it ne had* þe *sonner be resisted and lette.*"[1]

"First John Bailly s'vaunt of Henry Warer Sherman examyned confesseth and seith þ^{t} in þe said Fest of Corpus Christi Thomas Graunte departed and gone and Thomas Thurston s'vauntz of Rauf Marche m'cer & William Robynson s'vaunt of William Leytone poyntmaker with oþere malefaitours and troublers of þe Kinges peas were confedered and enterallied to gidre in the Toure of þe Ryall[2] of London to have sleyne & murdred Galiot Scot and oþere merchantz estraungers the said Friday aboute xj of þe clok in Lumbardstrete & oþere stretes of London Wheruppon þe saide malefaitours contynuyng their saide malicieux purpose in the said Fest of Corpus Christi lest their Counceill shuld have ben understand

[1] "The same yere" — viz., 35 Henry VI.—"was an hurlynge by twene mercers with oþer craftes a yenes Lombardes." 'A Short English Chron.' (Camd. Soc., N.S. 28), p. 70.

[2] Tower Royal, so called from its being at one time occupied by wine merchants from La Reole in Gascony.

& knowen afterward departed oute of þe saide Citee and came to Hoggesdon[1] Where they and oþere assembled in greater noumbre were confedered and sworn to gidre upon the crosse † of a grote[2] everiche of theym to lyve and dye with oþere in executyng of their wiked ententz abovesaid seying then among themself they douted not but when they shuld begynne þe saide fete they shuld mowe have help ynough of þe people Inasmuche as myche people thenne hated dedely þe saide marchantz estraungiers as they seyden For they bothe were fals extorcioners comon lechours and avoutrers Wherfore they thought it a goode dede to sle and murdre them &c And also þ^e^ said John Bailly confesseth and knowlicheth that he was first excited and moeved & abbetted to assent and be sworn unto þe saide confederacye in maner & forme aboveseid purposed to have be doon by þe forsaid Thomas Graunte and William Robynson.

"Item it is notoirely knowen þat the said Thomas Graunte purposyng to have made a commocion among þe people on Wendisday then next suyng came oute of the selde called the Croune in Chepe with his armes full of staffz and them cast adowne in Chepe seying then openly *Go we hens for ther is an Englisshman sleyn by the lombardes in lumbardstrete* And þ^e^ same Thomas Graunte was fortwith restraynt of his malicieux purpos by Hugh Wyche mercer and other

Fo. 296 b. "Item it ys founde by þe persones folowing herafter þat the said Thomas Graunte Thomas Thurstone & William Robynson were þe chief & principall moevers procurers & abetters of all oþer unto þe confederacy aforsaid

Thurstone. "Item þe said Thomas Thurstone examyned confesseth and seith þat he was assented & sworn unto the confederacie aforsaid Also he seith þ^t^ he was first excited and stired by þe said Thomas Graunte so to be assented & sworn Also he

[1] Hoxton.

[2] The silver groat at this time bore on the *obv.* a full-faced bust crowned, within a tressure, encircled by the King's name and title; and on the *rev.* a long cross extending to the edge of the coin. 'Hist. and Valuation of Coins of Great Britain and Ireland' (ed. H. Grueber), p. 29.

seith þ^t atte castying oute of þe said staves in Chepe by his seid felow Thomas Graunte his forsaid maister Rauf Marche thenne was in his house atte gote[1]

"Item Thomas Bek anoþer servaunt of þe said Rauf Marche confesseth and seith þ^t atte tyme of þ^e castyng oute of þe saide staves in Chepe his saide maister was in his hous atte gote & þ^t þe same Thomas was neither consented ne sworn unto þe saide confederacye *Bek.*

"Item Thomas Clement sherman servaunt of þe forsaid 'Herry' Warer examyned confesseth & knowlicheth þat he privee assented & sworn with oþere unto þe saide confederacye purposed & ymagined to have ben executed and done in maner & forme aforsaid but he seith þat specialy he entended to have þe saide Galioth Scot for holdyng þe wife of þe same Thomas in avoutry unto his perpetual shame Also he seith and confesseth þat he was first þ'to stirred & abetted by þe forsaid John Bailly his felowe *Clement.*

"Item 'Robert' Taillour servaunt of Robert Gregory, mercer, examyned confesseth & knowlicheth þ^t he was assented & with oþer enterallied unto þe saide confederacy in maner and forme aforsaid but he seith þat he was never therto sworn Also he seith þ^t he was excited & abetted unto þe same confederacy by þe forsaid Thomas Clement *Ro. Taillour.*

"Item Edward Skelton servaunt of John Marchall, mercer, John Box, servaunt of William Growman, mercer, & Thomas Rouley, servaunt of John Rouley, mercer, severaly examyned confessen & knowlichen þat in þe said Fest of Corpus Christi they were present with oþere in þe forsaid Toure of þe Royall but they seyn þat they were never assented ne sworn unto þe said confederacye and þe said Edward Skelton seith þat as sone as he sawe þe forsaid 'Richard' Taillour þere pleying atte swerd with þe forsaid Rouley he departed fro thens and wold not tary In asmuche as aforetyme his seid maister had forbod hym þe felisship of þe said 'Richard' Taillour *Skelton.*

[1] "Atte goat," the name of the house.

Middeltone. "Item John Middelton servaunt of Nicholas Taillour examyned confesseth & knowlicheth þ^t^ he was assented enterallied and sworn with oþere unto þe saide confederacye in maner & forme aforsaid and seid þat he was not aferd to sey þe trouthe For their purpose & ententz was to have slayne þe said marchantes estraungers & suche as wold have come & supported þe same marchantes Also he seith þ^t^ he was þerto first stired and abetted by þe forsaid William Robynson Also he seith þ^t^ þe said Richard Taillour was thries sworn unto þe saide confederacy

Rikson. "Item Richard Rikson also servaunt of þe said Nicholas Taillour examyned confesseth and knowlicheth þat he was with þe said John Middelton and oþere at Hoggesdon And there with them was confedered & assented to sle þe said Galioth Scot and oþere Lumbardes Also he seith he was not there sworn unto them but he sawe þe said Thomas Graunt Thomas Thurston & oþere there sworn Also he seith þat þe said Thomas Graunt First sterid and abetted hym to assent unto þe said confederacy

Harriesson. "Item Robert Harryesson also servant to þe said Nicholas Taillour examyned confesseth and knowlicheth þ^t^ he knew þe purpose and entent of þe said malefaitours but he was not at Hoggesdon ne never to them sworn

Robynson. "Item þe forsaid William Robynson examyned confesseth and knowlicheth þ^t^ he was at Hoggesdon with oþere and there was assented and enterallied with them to their confederacy in maner & forme aforsaid & graunted to go with them upon the Lumbardes and seith þ^t^ he was þerto first stered & abetted by þe forsaid Thomas Graunte Also he seith þat þe said Friday by þe morow þe said Thomas Graunte came unto him with an hevy chere[1] and seid *Allas we have a shrewde turn for nowe is our purpos broken & retted by þe Mair & Shirrefz and I wote not howe it come oute ne by whom*

[1] Look or appearance; *Vultus* (Way).

"O Socrates, thou stedfast champioun
She never mighte be thy tormentour;
Thou never dreddest hir oppressioun
Ne in hir *chere* founde thou no savour."

Chaucer, Minor Poems, 'Fortune,' 382 (ed. Skeat).

Randes.

"Item Thomas Randes gurdeler examyned deposeth and knowlicheth þ^t^ he was stired and moeved to assent unto þe saide confederacye in maner & form aforsaid to have be doon & executed and came unto Hoggesdon with John Cottone wyre-drawer & anoþer whom he knew not And also he seith þ^t^ he was never sworn unto þe said malefaitours like as oþere were but refused so to be And also he seith þ^t^ he taried not at Hoggesdon but from thens departed with þe said Cottone And also he seith þ^t^ þe forsaid Richard Taillour stired & desired hym to come to Hoggesdon

John' Cottone.

"Item it is founde by examynac'on þ^t^ þ^e^ same John Cotton taught diverse of þ^e^ said malefaitours to pley atte swerd in þ^e^ said Tour atte Ryall where þ^e^ said confederacy was first taken & þ^e^ same Cottone examyned knowlicheth þ^t^ he was present at Hoggesdon with þ^e^ said malefaitours but he seid þ^t^ he never knewe of their saide malicieux purpose ne never was sworn ne assented therunto and sothe it is þ^t^ he is not accused by any of þ^e^ said riottous persones of þ^t^ he shuld have be privee or assented unto their saide confederacye Except onely of his said beyng with them at Hoggesdon etyng & drinking And þ^e^ same Cottone seith þ^t^ þ^e^ said Thomas Randes departed not with hym from Hoggesdon but abode there with þe saide malefaitours Also he seith þat Richard Mapy servaunt of William Denton mercer whiche Richard is departed & gone first stired him to come to Hoggesdon for his disportes

Fo. 297.

Mapy et al'.

"Item it is founde by examynac'on of þ^e^ forsaid John Middelton William Robynson Richard Taillour and oþere þat Richard Mapy aforsaid, William Brembille, servaunt of John Grove gurdeler, John Worsley, taillour, John Stowe, servaunt of William Heron' haberdassher, Thomas Dabelle servaunt of John Worshop', draper, John Rychemond, poyntemaker, & Robert Colman, capper, with oþere whiche ben departed and gone were assented enterallied & sworn to gider with þ^e^ forsaid malefactours at Hoggesdon unto þe saide confederacye in maner & forme aforsaid to have ben executed & doon

Nele.

"Item it is founde by examynac'on þat John Nele lethersiller the saide Friday by þe morow when þe Mair Aldermen

& Shiereefz accompanyed them to kepe þe Kinges peas & to resist & appresse the saide malefactours in their wiked purpose & ententz aforsaid openly seide in presence of diverse officers openly in þe Guyldehall þat *he wolde þe saide Mair Aldermen Shierrefz and all oþere officers þe same day had ben at York* Wherby it was conceyved & understand unto þe said Mair & Aldermen þ^t^ þe said John Nele rather was disposed to þe comfort supportac'on & favour of þe said riottous persones in their wiked ententz aforsaid then to thessistens of þe said officers in keping of the saide peas Wherfore þe same John was commytted to Ward

Rauf Marche. "Item by asmuche as it was found by examynac'on before this that atte tyme of þe ryot made in þe said Citee þe yere last passed[1] þ^e^ saide Thomas Graunte & Thomas Thurston servauntz of þe said Rauf Marche were present with mysdoers with staves in their handes as wele in resistence then made ayenst þe Mair þe rescusse made ayenst þe Shierrefz as atte Ryot then made upon þe Lombardes And þe said Rauf them toke to baill upon a grete somme and þ'uppon hadde comaundement bothe sp'ially & gen'ally at sondry tymes to see unto þe sadde reule & goode governaunce of his saide servauntz The whiche servauntz as before is reherced ben wele understand the first and principall begynners of þe said untrue confederacy and riot of new purposed to have be commytted and done And þe said Thomas Graunt þe same persones þ^t^ so cast oute þe said staves in Chepe and is wele supposed þ^t^ þ^e^ said Rauf more effectuelly myght have put hym in devoir to oversee the good reule & sadde demeanyng of his said servauntz. Therfore þe said Rauf was commytted to warde &c And nowe is lette to baille by considerac'on of þe Court to thentent þ^t^ he therby þe more diligently may put hym in playne devoir for his acquitaille to tharrestyng & bringyng yn of þe said Thomas Graunte his servant."

[1] There had been a similar "horlynge betwene the mercers and Lombardes" during Marowe's mayoralty. 'Short English Chron.' (Camd. Soc., N.S. 28), p. 70.

5 March, 5 Edward IV. [A.D. 1464-5], came John Brokford, *alias* Wakeley, draper, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Ralph Josselyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged himself bound to Robert Colwyche, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £1,400.

The above bond to be void provided that the above John Brokford or George Ireland, who married Margaret, the widow of Thomas Hawkyn, and Thomas Bernewey, drapers, and John Kendale, "peautrer," or any one of them, pay or cause to be paid into Court the sum of £500 to the use of Thomas and Richard respectively, sons of the said Thomas Hawkyn, as soon as they come of age, and £200 to the use of Elizabeth and Johanna, daughters of the same, as soon as they come of age or marry. Fos. 297-297 b.

The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], in the presence of Thomas Canyng', the Mayor, Thomas Ursewik, the Recorder, Stephen Broun, John Olney, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, William Marwe, Stephen Forster, Thomas Scot, William Cantlowe, Geoffrey Boleyn, Richard Lee, William Hulyn, Christopher Warter, Richard Alley, Matthew Philip, John Walden, John Middelton, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the ensuing year, William Edward was elected one of the Sheriffs for London and Middlesex by the Mayor, and Thomas Reyner was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty. Fo. 298. *Eleccio Vicecomitum.*

[The election of the Chamberlain not recorded.]

Thomas Davy and Peter Alfold were elected Wardens of London Bridge; Richard Alley, John Walden, Aldermen, Robert Drope, William Narburgh, William Porter, and John Bernewell, Commoners, elected Auditors of the accounts in arrear of the Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn in the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Eleccio Maioris.

The Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], in the presence of Thomas Canyng', the Mayor, Thomas Ursewyk, the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Stephen Broun, John Atherle, John Olney, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, Stephen Forster, William Marwe, Thomas Scot, William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Richard Alley, Geoffrey Boleyn, Richard Lee, John Middeltone, John Feld, Thomas Cooke, and Ralph Josselyn, Aldermen, William Edward and Thomas Reyner, the Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Geoffrey Boleyn was elected.

Afterwards, viz., on the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], he was sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow was presented, admitted, and accepted, &c., before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Fos. 298 b-299.

Inspeximus of ordinances made in the Star Chamber on the 5th Feb., 35 Henry VI. [A.D. 1456-7], to be observed in the sanctuary of the free chapel of St. Martin within the City. Witness the King at Westminster, 24 Nov., 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457].[1]

[Fos. 299 b-300 b *blank.*]

Fo. 301.

Judicium combustionis diversor' "verthkyns."

Wednesday, 24 Nov., 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1457], came the Masters or Wardens, and many other good men of the Mistery of Coupers, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Geoffrey Boleyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and complained that Stephen Wolf and John Bromer, fishmongers, had made certain vessels (comprising "ferthkyns") of wood that was not pure nor entire, but sawn into pieces (*in medio serrat'*) and full of "sappe," contrary to the

[1] The ordinances are set out in full in Kempe's 'St. Martin le Grand,' pp. 146–51. Stow, who gained most of his information about the College of St. Martin le Grand and its sanctuary from the Register of the Church and Sanctuary (which Kempe, much to his regret, was not allowed to see), refers to these Articles here recorded as "set down in the booke of K within the Chamber of the Guild hall, in the leafe 299." 'Survey' (ed. Kingsford), i. 307, 308.

ordinance made in the Mayoralty of Drew Barantyne.[1] The vessels were thereupon ordered to be burnt.[2]

Proclamacio pro vasis videl't barell' et aliis h'mo'i non fact' de ligno puro et integro etc.

Proclamation made by order of the Mayor and Aldermen of an ordinance to the above effect and for the burning of all such vessels as had been found to be "made of uncleen and sappy tymbre & lakking of their just mesure" contrary to the ordinance.

Exon'acio Joh' Randolf ab assisis etc.

28 June, 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1458], John Randolf, mercer, discharged by Geoffrey Boleyn, Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to his infirmities.

Fo. 301.

The commencement of a deed by John Tamworth, clerk, touching tenements in Coubriggestrete and Hosyerlane, near Smithfield....

[Fos. 302-304 b *blank.—N.B. There is no folio numbered 303.*]

Fo. 305.

Thursday, 8 June, 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1458], petition made by William Rotheley, goldsmith, to the Mayor and Aldermen, showing that whereas he and John Johnson, "bocher," had agreed to submit their differences touching the title to certain lands and tenements in the parish of Wolwich to the judgment of Thomas Tyrell, Knt., and the said Thomas Tyrell had adjudged that the said John Johnson should pay damages to the said William Rotheley to the amount of £20, and that the said William should enjoy peaceable possession of the said lands and tenements, the said John Johnson had refused to pay the money, and was thereupon sued by the said petitioner on his bond. Judgment was allowed to go by default, and a counter action was commenced by John Johnson. A jury empanelled to try the case, but the parties agreed to abide by the judgment of six of the jury, viz., Walter Langriche, draper, John Stone, Richard Snowdon, skinners, John Dey, "cotiller," Simon Briggeman, fuller, and John Wilkes, draper, both parties binding themselves in the sum of £300. Within a few days, declares the petitioner, the said John Stone sent John Lounde to say that they knew that he had received scanty

[1] See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 75.

[2] Set out, together with the proclamation which follows, in Firth's 'Coopers' Company,' pp. 14–16.

justice at the hands of Sir Thomas Tyrell, and that he might look for a better award, but as to payment for the labour of the arbitrators, he was given to understand by John Lounde that John Stone "wold have no shales but he wold have the kernels." On this understanding the petitioner delivered to John Lounde a piece of silver covered and gilt as security for payment of £5 to John Stone for his reward, but when the said John Stone saw that the piece was worth more than £5, he desired to retain it as his reward, and, furthermore, desired the petitioner to give Richard Snowdon a piece of silver of the value of 40*s.* for his reward, for, said John Stone, he was "sure of þe said Richard Snowdon to doo and sey as he wold have hym," and that as a result of such rewards the said John Johnson "shuld pay þerfore right largely by þeir awarde & jugement." Thereupon came the above John Wilkes and claimed his reward in hand, and would not be satisfied with less than 40*s.*, as security for which the petitioner delivered to him a piece of silver worth 40*s.*, and to Richard Snowdon a piece worth 60*s.* Finally, the said John Wilkes, John Stone, and Richard Snowdon gave judgment in writing under their seals that the said "John Johnson shuld have the land þ^t was in variance betwene theym."[1]

[Fo. 305 b *blank.*]

Fo. 306. 24 Oct., 37 Henry VI. [A.D. 1458], Robert Botiller, goldsmith, discharged by Geoffrey Boleyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Proclamacio ne quis emat' seu vendat aliquas mercandisas ponderand' quousq' ponderentur ad co'em balanc'. Proclamation forbidding merchant strangers to buy or sell "any maner avoir de pois that oweth to be poised" or weighed except it be weighed by the King's Common Beam pursuant to the franchises and liberties of the City.

Fo. 306 b. Letters patent discharging Richard Burton of the Isle of "Gersey" from serving various offices. Witness the King at Westminster, 2 July, 36 Henry VI. [A.D. 1458].

[1] What the Mayor and Aldermen did in the matter is not recorded, although the petition is introduced with an unctuous allusion to the duties of municipal authorities in protecting good men against evildoers.

Eleccio vic'.

The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 37 Henry VI. [A.D. 1458], in the presence of Geoffrey Boleyn, the Mayor, Thomas Ursewyk, the Recorder, Stephen Broun, John Athirle, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, William Hulyn, John Walden, Thomas Scot, William Marwe, William Gregory, Richard Alley, John Middelton, Ralph Verney, William Taillour, and Ralph Josselyn, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, Ralph Josselyn was elected one of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex by the Mayor, and Richard Nedeham the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day Thomas Thorndon, draper, was elected Chamberlain; Thomas Davy and Peter Alfold were elected Wardens of London Bridge; John Walden, John Middelton, Aldermen, and William Porter, John Bernewell, John Wallshawe, and John Harowe, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts in arrear of the Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

The Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 37 Henry VI. [A.D. 1458], in the presence of Geoffrey Boleyn, the Mayor, Thomas Ursewyk, the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Stephen Broun, John Hathirle, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, William Marwe, Thomas Canyng', Thomas Scot, William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Richard Alley, Richard Lee, John Walden, John Feld, John Middelton, Thomas Cook, William Taillour, Thomas Oulegreve, Ralph Josselyn, and Hugh Wyche, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, Thomas Scot was elected [*ends abruptly*].

Fo. 307.

Ex' Joh' Newerk iremonger.

22 Nov., 37 Henry VI. [A.D. 1458], John Newerk, "iremonger," discharged by Thomas Scot, the Mayor, and the Aldermen from serving on juries, &c., owing to increasing old age.

Ex' Ric'i Carnerley Groc'.

16 Jan., 37 Henry VI. [A.D. 1458-9], Richard Carnerley, grocer, similarly discharged for like cause.

Ex' Thome Elys pannar'.

17 Jan., the same year, Thomas Elys, "draper," similarly discharged owing to his being afflicted with stone, &c.

Ex' Joh' Hobert sellar'.

3 March, the same year, John Hobert, "sadiller," similarly discharged owing to increasing old age.

Ex' Ric'i Philip groceri.

12 June, 37 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459], Richard Philip, grocer, similarly discharged for like cause.

Presentacio ad ijam cantar' iij cantar' in eccl'ia Sc'i Pauli pro ai'a Joh' Pulteney per viam Resignaco'is.

Letter from Thomas Scot, the Mayor, under the Mayoralty seal, to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, presenting Thomas Bolton, chaplain, for admission to the second of the three chantries founded in the said church by Sir John Pulteney, Knt., for the good of his own soul and the souls of Sirs William Milleford and John Plesseys, late Archdeacons of Colchester, vacant by the resignation of Robert Hubert. [No date.]

Fo. 307b.

Letters patent appointing Peter Ardern, Knt., Chief Baron of the Exchequer, Thomas Thorp, Brian Rouclyff, John Holme, and John Durham, Barons of the same Exchequer, to receive and swear into office William Hulyn, lately elected Mayor of the City, in the place where the Court of Exchequer would have been sitting had it not been adjourned beyond the morrow of SS. Simon and Jude [28 Oct.], and further to receive the account of Thomas Scot, Mayor and Escheator, for his year of office as Escheator, the King himself being unable to be present either at Westminster or at the Tower.[1] Witness the King at Warrewik, 20 Oct., 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459].

Fo. 308.

4 Feb., 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459-60], came William Broun, William Prynce, Thomas Snersland, and Robert Hardyng, goldsmiths, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Hulyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorndone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £10.

The above bond to be void on payment of a similar sum into Court by the said William Broun, or by some one on his behalf,

[1] A civil war had now fairly commenced; the battle of Bloreheath had been fought (23 Sept.) and decided in the King's favour, and the Yorkist lords had sought safety in flight.

to the use of Robert, son of Henry Boode, late goldsmith, as soon as he shall come of age.

The money was paid on the 3rd Sept., 7 Edward IV. [A.D. 1467].

Fo. 308 b.

Judicium pillorie Ric'i Claidissh scryven' et al' pro falsis l'ris testimonial'.

9 April, 37 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459], Richard Claydissh, writer of court-hand, Nicholas Walsshe, John Englisshe, John Gawran, and William Stountone, "fruterers," and John Hoke, grocer, attached to answer the lord the King, the Commonalty, as well as William Chattok and William Braybroke, fishmongers, on a charge of fraudulently fabricating letters bearing witness to an alleged sale of certain figs to them by the said William Braybroke; whereas the said William Braybroke had as a fact sold the same figs, which had been imported from Normandy, to Richard Rawlyns and John Kipping, grocers, and Simon Smyth, "iremonger," and thus the said Chattok and Braybroke ran the risk of losing £200. After due investigation by the Mayor and Aldermen it was adjudged that Richard Claydissh and Nicholas Walsshe, as the principal offenders, should stand on the pillory on Cornhull for an hour, and the lesser offenders half an hour, and afterwards should remain in prison until further orders, public proclamation being made of their offence.

Fo. 309.

De apprest' facto per m'cat' Hanze Aliman' ad relevium Warde de Dowgate.

11 Feb., 39 Henry VI. [A.D. 1460-1], an acknowledgment by John "Walssha," Alderman of the Ward of Dowgate, Robert Gayton, grocer, Thomas Danyell, dyer, Thomas Boyles, tailor, William Gardener, fishmonger, William Wikwan, dyer, and John Trewynard, sherman, inhabitants of the Ward, William Cawche, Robert Brigger, Thomas Baxster, and John Broke, collectors of the money to be furnished by the said Ward to the King, of the receipt of a sum of £20 paid by the merchants of the Teutonic Hanse in the Ward towards the sum to be paid by the Ward to the King's use, as a freewill offering on the part of the said merchants, and not otherwise.

Fo. 309 b.

A recital of the proceedings touching the forging of certain letters by Richard Claidisshe and others already recorded *supra*, fo. 308 b. Dated under the Mayoralty seal, 9 April, A.D. 1459.[1]

[1] These proceedings are subscribed with the name "Tonge," Roger Tonge *alias* Spicer being the Town Clerk of the day. In signing himself

Fo. 310. *Custod' pueror' Joh'is Roo m'ceri orphan' civit'.*

12 March, 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459-60], came Margaret Roo, widow, Simon Dawdely, John Baker, and Henry Bumstede, mercers, and Richard Mortymer, grocer, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Hulyn, Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorndone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of £433 6*s.* 8*d.*

The above bond to be void if the said Margaret or some one on her behalf pay into Court the sum of 400 marks to be equally divided among John, Thomas, Richard, and Robert, sons of John Roo, late mercer, when they shall have come of age; and also the sum of £100 for Katherine, daughter of the said John Roo, as soon as she comes of age or marries. Mention made of Anne, another daughter of the said John Roo, already deceased.

Fo. 310 b. And forasmuch as the said Simon Dawdely died, his place was taken by Richard Kempe, mercer, on the 20th August, 1 Edward IV. [A.D. 1461].

And forasmuch as John, son of the said John Roo, died of full age, having made a will, as was plainly shown to Ralph Josselyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, on the 21st March, 4 Edward IV. [A.D. 1463-4], the above Margaret and her sureties were declared quit in respect of the said son's portion.

9 Feb., 7 Edward IV. [A.D 1467-8], came John Baker and Henry Bumstede, mercers, who married Alice and Margaret, daughters of the above John Roo, late mercer, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Thomas Oulegreve, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for money accruing to their respective wives by the death of Katherine, daughter of the said John Roo.

18 April, 9 Edward IV. [A.D. 1469], came Thomas, son of the above John Roo, being of full age, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William

thus he was following a mode initiated by John Carpenter, a former Town Clerk. See 'Cal. Letter-Book I,' p. 197. The custom became general, and is continued at the present day.

Taillour, Mayor, and the Aldermen, and acknowledged satisfaction for his patrimony.

Eleccio Vic'. The Feast of St. Matthew [21 Sept.], 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459], in the presence of Thomas Scot, the Mayor, Thomas Ursewik, the Recorder, Stephen Broun, John Hathirle, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, William Marwe, William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Richard Lee, John Walden, John Middelton, Thomas Oulegreve, Ralph Josselyn, Hugh Wiche, Aldermen, and very many Commoners summoned to the Guildhall for the election of Sheriffs for the year ensuing, John Plomer was elected one of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex by the Mayor, and John Stokker was elected the other Sheriff by the Commonalty.

The same day Thomas Thorndone, draper, was elected Chamberlain; Peter Alfold and Peter Calcot were elected Wardens of London Bridge; John Middelton, Hugh Wiche, Aldermen, John Walshawe, John Harowe, John Lambart, and Henry Waver, Commoners, were elected Auditors of the accounts in arrear of the Chamberlain and Wardens.

Afterwards, viz., on the eve of St. Michael [29 Sept.], the said Sheriffs were sworn at the Guildhall, and on the morrow of the said Feast were presented, admitted, and accepted before the Barons of the Exchequer.

The Feast of the Translation of St. Edward [13 Oct.], 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459], in the presence of Thomas Scot, the Mayor, Thomas Ursewik, the Recorder, the Prior of Christchurch, Stephen Broun, William Gregory, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, William Marwe, Thomas Canyng', William Cantelowe, William Hulyn, Matthew Philip, Richard Lee, John Middelton, John Walden, Thomas Cook, Ralph Verney, John Feld, Ralph Josselyn, Thomas Oulegreve, Hugh Wiche, and John Stokker, Aldermen, and an immense Commonalty summoned to the Guildhall for the election of a Mayor for the year ensuing, William Hulyn was elected.[1]

Fos. 311-12. Recital of the terms of the will of Thomas Dukmantone, late mercer, whereby he bequeathed the sum of 500 marks to

[1] For his being sworn into office, *vide supra*, 396.

John his son, the same to remain in the hands of Henry and John his brothers successively, in trust for his said son until he come of age, with remainder to pious uses. Whereupon the said Henry Dukmanton, together with John Broddesworth, John Lambard, and Thomas Niche, mercers, and John Billesdon, draper, entered into the customary bond before John Chichele, then Chamberlain, on Monday, 12 Nov., 25 Henry VI. [A.D. 1446]. Afterwards, viz., on Friday, the 23rd November, 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459], the said orphan having died under age, and the testator's brothers, Henry and John, being also dead, came the executors of the said testator and also the aforesaid John Lambard and Thomas Niche before William Hulyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and produced the testator's will dated 10 Feb., A.D. 1445[-6], duly proved, and prayed to be discharged of their bond as none of the money had come into their hands. On the same day came Robert Dukmanton, executor of Henry Dukmanton, and produced the latter's will, dated 22 July, A.D. 1454, and proved on the 12th Nov., A.D. 1459. The will having been read in Court, the said Robert also prayed the Mayor and Aldermen for the discharge of the said John Lambard and Thomas Niche on the same grounds as already stated, and judgment was given to that effect on the 12th December, 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459].

Fo. 312. Friday, 30 May, 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1460], came Richard Riche, Richard Nedeham, John Reynkyn, John Marchall, mercers, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Hulyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorndone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 500 marks.

The above bond to be void provided that the above Richard Riche, or some one on his behalf, pay into the Chamber the sum of 250 marks to the use of Richard, son of John Riche, late mercer, and a like sum to the use of Katherine, daughter of the same, when they come of age.

Fo. 312 b. *Custod' orphanor' Joh' Riche mercer'.* The same day came John Albourgh, John Lok, John Reynkyn, John Tate, and Robert Strayngham, mercers, before the same, and entered into bond in the sum of 500 marks.

The above bond to be void on payment into the Chamber by the said John Alburgh, or some one on his behalf, of the sum of 250 marks to the use of Thomas and John, sons of the above John Riche, respectively when they come of age.

Electio Joh'is Aisshe in co'em servient' ad arma civitat'.

28 Feb., 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459-60], John Aisshe admitted into the office of Common Serjeant-at-arms by William Hulyn, the Mayor, Geoffrey Feldyng, John Norman, Geoffrey Boleyn, William Cantelowe, Matthew Philip, Richard Lee, William Gregory, John Waldene, John Feld, John Middeltone, Ralph Josselyn, William Taillour, Thomas Cook, Ralph Verney, John Stokker, and Hugh Wyche, Aldermen, with the assent of an immense Commonalty in Common Council assembled.

30 May, 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1460], came John Alburgh, John Lok, John Reynkyn, John Tate, and John Worsop, draper, into the Court of the lord the King in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before William Hulyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and entered into bond with Thomas Thorndone, the Chamberlain, in the sum of 1,000 marks. [No condition recorded.]

25 April, 4 Edward IV. [A.D. 1464], William Bedknap (?) entered into bond before Matthew Philippe, the Mayor, for the payment of the sum of 1,000 marks to Robert Colwich, the Chamberlain, in the place of the above John Lok, deceased.

The above bond to be void if the said John Alburgh, or some one on his behalf, shall pay into Court the sum of 500 marks to the use of John and Anne respectively, children of John Malvern, late haberdasher, when they shall have come of age.

Fo. 313.

Letters patent appointing William Marowe, Alderman, to be a Justice to determine all pleas for debt among the merchants of Almaine according to the law merchant, in which pleas the Mayor and Sheriffs may be unable to do speedy justice, pursuant to charters granted to the said merchants.[1] Witness the King at Westminster, 30 March, 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1460].

[1] Cf. 'Liber Albus,' i. 295-6.

Fo. 313 b. Letter from the King to the Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Commonalty of the City[1]:—

"Trusty and Welbeloved We grete you wele And where as we nowe late directed unto you oure l'res...willyng and chargyng you by þ^e same to aggree and condescende unto a restfull ende & goode conclusion in suche matires as of long tyme have d...in trave(?) & variaunce betwix the Curates of oure Citee of London... We have understande by the declarac'on of your Recordour honorably purposed unto us on yo^r behalfe (?) the good will and full entente that ye have tobeye oure good plaisirs and lawefull comaundements as wele in the saide matere as in all o}ere in as humble wise as any oure soubgettes livyng (?) by the which your honourable demeanyng according to youre duete We verraily perceive the naturell love true obeissaunce and feithfull ligeance that ye owe and bere unto us and can you þerfore right singler thank and so according to yo^r desertes we accepte and repaie (?) you as our feithfull and true subgettes and over this whereas we also nowe late directed unto you oure l'res of commission[2] for to have yo^r aid (?) and assistence at this tyme to the suppressing of our Rebelles and traitours of this oure Royalme We have understand by the said declarac'on the goode disposic'on and towardnesse that ye have tobeye and accomplissh oure intent [and plai]sir in that partie so þat it shuld not be or redounde to þe derogac'on or breche of yo^r franchises privileges and libertees in any wise We woll ye wite þat it is nat our entent or wille ne at any tyme hath be to doo any thing that myght be or sowne to the breche deminuc'on or rupture of yo^r said franchises privileges or libertees or any of theym but rather to se them to be observed contynued and supported in as ample and honourable wise in oure daye....as....they have be of tyme passed

[1] Parts of the letter are illegible.

[2] On the 14th January, 1460, a Royal Commission had been read in the Common Council directing the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs to put in array a force to oppose the *late* Duke of York and the *late* Earls of Warwick, Salisbury, and Rutland, these nobles having been deprived of their respective titles and estates. Journal 6, fo. 224 b; 'Rot. Parl.,' v. 349.

in the dayes of oure noble progenitours and therunto we shall yeve unto you oure personal aide and assistence if the cas shal require And as for the certificat of our said Commission we shal have deliberate co'icac'on therin with þe lordes of oure Counsell for suche a direcc'on to be taken theryn as shall be for þe conservac'on of yo^{r} said franchises and for yo^{r} true acquitall and feithfull demenyng at this tyme We shall shew unto you suche favo^{r} and tendernesse of oure goode grace as ye and alle oþere shall have couraige to be of semblable disposic'on and towardnesse in tyme to come Yoeven under oure signet at oure Towne of Northamptone the second day of Feverie" [A.D. 1459-60].[1]

8 Jan., 39 Henry VI. [A.D. 1460-1], divers merchants of Almaine being summoned into the Court of the lord the King, in the Chamber of the Guildhall, before Richard Lee, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, and being informed that the inhabitants of the Ward of Dowgate were unable through poverty to raise the sum of 2,000 marks due from them for the defence of the City, they consented to advance £20 for that purpose of their own free will and not by way of forming a precedent.

10 March, 38 Henry VI. [A.D. 1459-60], Thomas Dounham elected by William Hulyn, the Mayor, and the Aldermen, to the office of Serjeant of the Mayor formerly exercised by John "Aisshe."

[1] On the 5th February it is recorded that Geoffrey Boleyn and Richard Verney, Aldermen, Thomas Ursewyk, the Recorder, and Thomas Burgoyne, one of the Under-Sheriffs, who had been dispatched to Northampton to interview the King and his Council on the King's letter touching the City curates and the Commission of array, reported to the Common Council the result of their journey, and brought with them a gracious letter from the King addressed to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs, which was then read; the "gracious letter" there mentioned being no doubt this letter of the 2nd Feb. Journal 6, fo. 196b.

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